Hafa Adai!

Finance awards $3.07M ARPA funds to nine NGOs, non-profits. PAGE 3
Gas prices up another 15 cents PAGE 4

$1

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXII, Issue No. 23

www.saipantribune.com | WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2022 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

WITH 3 S. KOREAN AIRLINES BACK ONLINE

CNMI sees influx of tourists

YEAR OF THE TIGER NHORLEEN LILLES

This screengrab from video shows lion dancers of the Chinese Association visiting and performing at the *Saipan Tribune* offices on the second floor of the JP Center in Garapan, as part of the annual tradition to welcome the Lunar New Year, which fell on Feb. 1, 2022, this year. This year is the Year of the Tiger.

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's three main South Korean airlines have officially resumed regular flight services as of last week and have already brought in hundreds of tourists.

In a brief interview with Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla Iakopo, she said that, as of Jan. 27, all three South Korean airlines that regularly fly to the CNMI—Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, and T'Way Air—have re-

SeeCNMI on Page 4

Magofna: Is OPA looking into $165K billing?

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Corina L. Magofna (D-Saipan) asked Public Auditor Kina B. Peter yesterday whether the Office of the Public Auditor is looking into the $165,000 billing of a company for providing COVID-19 sanitation services.

Magofna

See MAGOFNA on Page 4

Will virus be 'over'? Most Americans think not: AP-NORC poll

By KATE BRUMBACK, NATHAN ELLGREN and JOCELYN NOVECK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA (AP)—Early in the pandemic, Ryan Wilson was careful to take precautions—wearing a mask,

See WILL on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

AT A GLANCE

As of 7:20pm, Feb. 1, 2022

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated: **99.3%**

Days since last community transmission: **2**

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	37,704
Fully Vaccinated:	36,528
Moderna	
Initiated:	5,320
Fully Vaccinated:	5,151
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	1,123

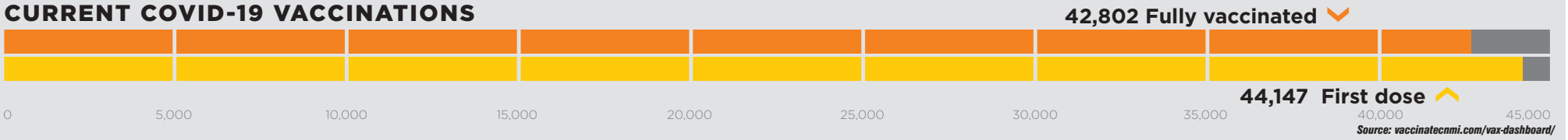
GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	32,331	777	33,108
Recovered	25,112	1,754	26,866
Active	5,171	777	5,948
Deaths	290	4	294

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	4,908	0*	4,908
Traced via Travel Screening	558	0*	558
Traced via Community Screening	4,350	0*	4,350
Deaths	23	0*	23

*No update

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., https://www.vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

CURRENT COVID-19 VACCINATIONS



Source: vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

INSIDE

LOCAL
Learn more about archaeology in the Marianas in an upcoming free virtual course.
Page 13

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING
From traditional to modern styles, the color green can serve as your secret weapon.
Page 14

LIFE & STYLE
Rihanna and A$AP Rocky reveal over the weekend that she's pregnant with her first child.
Page 15

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

NMC, PSS, NMTech collaborate on professional dev't training

NMC

Employees of the Northern Marianas Technical Institute listen to Public School System's Dr. Jessica Taylor present at a professional development seminar led by the Northern Marianas College and PSS.

Understanding the demands educators face continuously by federal and state mandates, the Public School System's Career and Technical Education Program conducted professional development training in partnership with the School of Education via the Community Development Institute of the Northern Marianas College to improve the knowledge and skills of educators needed to address students' learning challenges.

The skills acquired through the two-day training engaged teachers of PSS and the Northern Marianas Technical Institute to learn more about learners' needs inclusive of student mental, emotional, physical health, creating an engaging and innovative learning environment transforming their teaching methodology to herald an interactive and robust class culture as well as utilizing technology to foster a meaningful learning.

The PSS Career and Technical Education Program in partnership with NMC and NMTech hope to continue to collaborate on professional development and training for our educators in the field of CTE and the trades. Collaboration is key in ensuring there is a seamless connection for our career pathways from PSS to the postsecondary, and then industry sectors.

"It is more important now than ever for our teachers to develop best practices for delivering engaging and sustainable blended learning environments," said Dr. Jessica Taylor, PSS-CTE program director. "The COVID-19 pandemic altered our everyday lives, and it is critical that we, as educators, adapt and adjust so our students are provided the best opportunities possible to continue to grow and thrive in this new era. Students First for all our students!"

Peter Aldan, a participant and an art teacher at Kagman High school, said there was a lot of insightful information presented at the seminar.

"I really appreciated the information presented by Dr. Solomon," Aldan said. "I believe every educator should be aware of those stats. It is a step in the right direction for our children and people. I will definitely look for every opportunity to incorporate a student's culture into our art lessons. I will also try some of the virtual sites mentioned by Mrs. [Charlene] Masiwemai. Partnerships and collaborations like this are essential for the professional growth of our community. I really appreciate PSS CTE and NMC CDI coming together and addressing the needs of our students while working together to seek solutions."

Presenters included NMC's School of Education director Roland Merar, and faculty members Dr. Beylul Solomon, Ph.D, Resida Keller, Rosaline Cepeda, and Masiwemai.

"The partnership between NMC and PSS and [NMTerch] continues to grow stronger. We also continue to reach out to other public and private entities to help them with their training needs," CDI director Maria Valentina Haberman said.

"NMC's Community Development Institute provides training and educational programs that can build the technical and soft skills of our local workforce." Haberman said. "Our professional training activities are tailored to meet each client's needs. Our large network of specialists, with varying professional and technical backgrounds, are ready to take your team to the next level. So think, CDI for professional development."

For more information about professional training seminars offered, email the Community Development Institute at cdi@marianas.edu or visit www.marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

KEVIN'S
The Prime Rib & Seafood
Aqua Resort Club Saipan
BE MY
Valentine
Celebrate your love with a romantic dinner experience at Kevin's
Chef's Five Course Menu ♥ Exclusive Seating at Kevin's
Complimentary Glass of Sparkling Wine ♥ Wine Flight Special
$75 per person | Available Sunday, Feb. 13th & Monday, Feb. 14th
Special Menu Highlights
Seared Tuna, Mango Salsa | Bisque Cream Soup, Sweet Pumpkin | Homemade Citrus Sorbet
Beef Rib-Eye | Eggplant Caponata | Domino Potato | Valentine Dark Chocolate Cake
For reservations, call 670-322-1234 ext-731 | Seating available at 6:00 or 7:30pm
Make it a true experience — ask about our Valentine's Romantic Getaway Package
ARC
AQUA RESORT CLUB
Saipan

Finance awards $3.07M ARPA funds to nine NGOs, non-profits

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Finance has awarded nine non-government organizations and non-profit organizations a total of 3,078,994 in American Rescue Plan Act money.

Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig informed Sen. Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) last Jan. 20 that $750,000 was awarded in fiscal year 2021, and $2,328,994 was awarded during fiscal year 2022.

Atalig provided the information after DeLeon Guerrero filed an Open Government Act request to obtain the latest information about the CNMI's expenditure plan for the money it got via ARPA.

The non-profit awardees are the Commonwealth Cancer Association, American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc., Saipan Cares for Animals, Karidat Social Services, Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, Center for Living Independently in the CNMI, Micronesian Legal Services Corp., and CNMI Women's Association.

Of the nine awardees, the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance got the highest amount, $725,200, which was awarded in fiscal year 2022. Micronesian Legal Services Corp. received the lowest, $150,000—in fiscal year 2022.

The Commonwealth Cancer Association was awarded $400,000 in fiscal year 2021 and $84,600 in fiscal year 2022. The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter was awarded $350,000 in fiscal year 2021.

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc. was awarded $222,096 in fiscal year 2022; Saipan Cares for Animals got $300,000 inn fiscal year 2022; Karidat got $323,830 in fiscal year 2022; the Center for Living Independently in the CNMI, $3232,268, in fiscal year 2022; and CNMI Women's Association, $200,000, in fiscal year 2022.

Of the nine awardees, only four—the Commonwealth Cancer Association, American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc., and Saipan Cares for Animals—received disbursement in the amount of $100,000 each.

Atalig said that, in accordance with the CNMI's ARPA spending plan, non-profits were allocated $4 million in fiscal year 2021 and $6 million in fiscal year 2022, for a total of $10 million.

'No reports of severe adverse reax to COVID vaccines so far'

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With the CNMI's eligible population now 99% fully vaccinated, there has been no reports so far of any severe adverse reactions to the COVID-19 vaccines since the CNMI started inoculating its residents against the virus.

Heather Pangelinan, who is the director of population health services at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., said there have not been any reports of severe adverse reactions to the vaccines "as far as we are aware," when asked if they have gotten any reports of severe adverse side effects.

Three types of vaccines are available to CNMI residents: Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson.

Pangelinan also said that CHCC monitors reports "from the emergency room and CHCC clinics" as well as the national Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, or VAERS.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, VAERS is a "national vaccine safety surveillance program that helps to detect unusual or unexpected reporting patterns of adverse events for vaccines." VAERS is a "passive surveillance system" and as such relies on people sending in reports of their experiences after vaccination.

One disclaimer about VAERS however, CDC said, is that it "is not designed to determine if a vaccine caused or contributed to an adverse event." As such, a report to VAERS does not mean the vaccine caused the event.

According to the www.vaccinatecnmi.com dashboard, as of yesterday, 99.3% of the CNMI's 5 and older population is vaccinated against COVID-19. Also according to the dashboard, a total of 104,924 vaccines have been administered in the CNMI to date.

Pangelinan said that in the CNMI the most commonly-reported side effects from COVID-19 vaccines include pain at the injection site, fever, headache, and fatigue.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

A public notice is hereby given that Dae Hae Incorporation, with the principal address of P.O. Box 503979, Gatbo Avenue, Dandan, Saipan, MP 96950, has decided to discontinue its business and dissolve permanently.

How's Your Hearing?

Specializing in:

- Hearing Evaluations
- Custom fitted hearing aids
- Digital and ProgrammableTechnology
- Custom Communication Devices

- **Thursday, February 10th 9:00am - 4:00pm**
- **Friday, February 11th 9:00am - 4:00pm**

at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan

Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences
Email: rosshearingaids@yahoo.com

Ross Hearing Aids

All interested patients should call Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling

234-3925/7

Insurance accepted: AETNA and Medicaid

Gas prices up another 15 cents

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI saw yet another increase in fuel prices yesterday, with Mobil Oil Marianas gas stations taking the lead with a 15-cent increase.

At around 4pm yesterday afternoon, Mobil's Extra fuel went up from $ 5.11 a gallon to $5.26. Mobil also hiked its Supreme fuel from $5.56 to $5.71 a gallon while its diesel increased from $5.38 a gallon to $5.58.

Shell Marianas has yet to increase its prices as of 6pm press time but both oil companies typically mirror each other's price changes, so Shell is expected to impose the same increase today.

According to a local motorist who requested anonymity, the fuel prices are becoming shockingly high so early into the year and he fears the impact it will have on the cost of electricity.

"Yes, the increase in fuel prices is ridiculous, but I'm not as worried about how much more I'll be paying for a full tank of gas as I am concerned about how much the cost of electricity will go up. I already pay a couple hundred dollars on power. If this trend in gas prices continues, I'm going to have to start cutting back on my electricity consumption," he said.

KIMBERLY ESMORES

The CNMI saw yet another increase in fuel prices yesterday, with Mobil Oil Marianas gas stations taking the lead with a 15-cent increase.

Effective yesterday, the cost of electric power went up slightly due to an increase in the average fuel oil prices worldwide that has impacted the fuel adjustment charge of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

In a news release last Friday, it said there has been an increase in the average international fuel oil prices which in turn affects the FAC. As a result, the FAC rate of $0.20909 per kilowatt-hour went up to $0.23908 per kWh.

The FAC is one of two components that make up the CUC electric kWh rate, which is used to purchase fuel. The second component is the CUC base rate, which is used to fund operations, projects, and debt service. This base rate has not been increased since April 17, 2014.

Court denies creditor's request to further stay IPI receivership

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
Kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has denied the request of one of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's creditors to further stay the limited receivership that was initially granted in favor of USA Fanter Corp. Inc.

Chief Judge Ramona Manglona released an order yesterday stating that the court denies Ping Shun Corp.'s previous request to further stay the limited receivership against IPI because the plaintiff's standing to enforce the receivership is currently subject to dispute.

Manglona did approve the stay agreement between IPI and Ping Shun to stay all enforcement proceedings in Ping Shun's judgment only.

According to the order, in the case filed by USA Fanter, the court granted the plaintiff's motion to appoint a limited receivership and set the terms of the receivership.

However, Ping Shun, along with other IPI creditors, moved to amend the court's initial order to basically include them and allow them to step into USA Fanter's shoes in order to satisfy the judgments they have against IPI.

"Ping Shun, along with 'Other Creditors,' have moved to amend the court's order granting limited receivership in USA Fanter to continue liquidating IPI's gaming equipment [and] to make explicit that any judgment creditor who has not been adequately secured by IPI may effectively step into the shoes of Fanter and pursue the receivership under the same terms and conditions as set forth in the [limited receivership] order," Manglona said.

Because the "other creditors" motion has not been fully briefed, and the parties have agreed to extend the time for briefing, Ping Shun does not have proper authority to request a stay on the limited receivership.

"The court has not ruled on whether Ping Shun or 'other creditors' may step into the shoes of U.S.A. Fanter and therefore stay the receivership. The court therefore instead construes Ping Shun and IPI's stipulation as a stipulation to vacate briefing in the USA Fanter matter regarding the motion to amend. The court will accordingly vacate briefing as well as the Feb. 17 hearing," the judge stated.

Initially, IPI's opposition to Ping Shun and the "other creditors" motion to amend was due on Feb. 4, and a hearing was scheduled for Feb. 17.

According to a previous article on the *Saipan Tribune*, Ping Shun, one of the other creditors, officially filed its stipulation with the court stating that it has executed an agreement with IPI to stay enforcement of its judgment in exchange for IPI securing a supersedeas bond in the amount of $445,000 on or before Feb. 22.

MAGOFNA

From Page 1

In a letter to Peter, Magofna said that invoices from JOGO Sanitation Services have raised many concerns from taxpayers, including Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios.

The lawmaker, who is vice chair of the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee, requested the public auditor for a briefing on what actions OPA has taken, if any, since these JOGO invoices came to light.

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (D-Saipan), who recently exposed JOGO's invoices, noted that the company was being paid $4,749 per day just to sanitize the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. Jesseleo Taimanao Ogo, who owns the company, has yet to comment on the issue.

Magofna said she trusts that OPA is performing its fiduciary duties under the NMI Constitution, being an independent agency of the CNMI government in charge of oversight and enforcement of public funds.

Citing the Commonwealth Code, the lawmaker said the role of the auditor is to "audit the receipt, possession and disbursement of public funds" and "perform other duties as provided by law."

She said duties under the Commonwealth Code include a policing authority to "prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in collection and expenditures of all public funds."

Magofna earlier disclosed that the $165,000 JOGO billing was part of the reasons why the Ways and Means Committee will be conducting an oversight hearing on all contracts relating to the

WILL

From Page 1

not really socializing, doing more of his shopping online.

The 38-year-old father and seafood butcher from Casselberry, Florida, says he relaxed a bit after getting vaccinated last year. He had a few friends over and saw his parents more, while making sure to still mask up at places like the grocery store. The recent virus surge hasn't caused him to change his behavior much, because he's vaccinated and has read that the variant causes less severe illness.

And, like many, Wilson has come to believe COVID-19 is probably never fully going away.

"It'll become endemic and we'll be stuck with it forever," he says. "It's frustrating, but what can you do about it?"

Many Americans agree that they're going to "be stuck with it forever"—or, at the least, for a long time. A poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research shows that few—just 15%—say they'll consider the pandemic over only when COVID-19 is largely eliminated. By contrast, 83% say they'll feel the pandemic is over when it's largely a mild illness.

The poll shows that 59% of Americans think it's essential that they personally be vaccinated against COVID-19 to feel safe participating in public activities.

But, underscoring what authorities call alarmingly low COVID-19 vaccination rates in U.S. children ages 5 to 11, just 37% of parents consider it essential that their children are vaccinated before they return to normal. And although boosters provide significantly better protection against COVID-19, especially the omicron variant, than a two-shot course of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, just 47% of Americans think it's essential that they get one.

Wilson, in Florida, said that while he is vaccinated, he doesn't plan to have his 5-year-old daughter vaccinated because he's heard the odds of healthy children suffering anything more than cold symptoms are low.

In Minneapolis, 36-year-old public health researcher Colin Planalp got his 6-year-old son vaccinated as soon as he could. "Kids can get really sick from COVID," he says, faulting health authorities for not making that more clear to the public.

Although kids tend to fare better than adults, experts say they still can suffer from serious illness and long-term health impacts from the virus.

The poll shows more Americans are taking precautionary measures against the virus than before the omicron surge.

Overall, 64% now say they are always or often avoiding large groups and 65% are wearing face masks around others, both up from 57% in December. Sixty percent say they are regularly avoiding nonessential travel, up from 53% one month ago. That level of precaution is the highest since last spring, before millions of Americans were fully vaccinated.

Early in the pandemic, Planalp and his wife worked at home for months on end, and kept their young son home. But when they got vaccinated they allowed themselves to go out more, to visit family out of state, even to work part-time in the office.

Then the delta variant hit, and they ratcheted up their precautions. With omicron, they upped them even more.

"I've switched to wearing N95 masks because I'm no longer confident in the regular cloth masks, and I hardly go out at all anymore," Planalp says. "We've canceled travel plans. My son has been out of school for more than a week now and hopefully he'll get to go back in a week. But who really knows?"

Planalp, too, doesn't think the virus is going anywhere—and isn't sure it will get milder, either: "We're not going to be done with this. It's going to change over time and we just can't predict exactly how it's going to change."

Vaccinated Americans remain much more likely to practice precautions. Seventy-three percent of vaccinated Americans say they frequently wear a mask around others, compared with 37% of unvaccinated Americans.

CNMI

From Page 1

sumed daily scheduled flights.

"All three airlines have resumed starting Jan. 27. That's because it's the Lunar New Year holiday period for Korea," Iakopo said.

Although the South Korean government has imposed a restriction on local airlines to only accommodate up 70% of its regular load factor, the CNMI saw an influx of tourists on Jan. 29.

Iakopo explained that all three airlines managed to fill up their 70%, which is roughly 370 seats each.

"Take into consideration that Korea has implemented a restriction on load factor that the airlines can only fill up their seats up to 70%. … For Jan. 29, we have seen an influx of tourists with Asiana, Jeju, and T'way filling up their seats up to the 70%," she said.

Currently, because all tourists coming in are required to be vaccinated, they are welcome to stay at any hotel of their choice as long as they adhere to COVID-19 entry protocols.

Earlier last month, T'way Air suspended its two flights a week schedule until Jan. 28. In addition, Jeju Air stopped its Busan–Saipan route since Jan. 12.

Last week, both arlines began providing Incheon-based flights again.

In addition, the CNMI will also see travelers from Busan, thanks to the current charter in place with Air Busan.

During the January MVA board meeting, majority of the board voted in favor of subsidizing six Air Busan charter flights starting Jan. 23, which are flying in partnership with Micronesia Resort Inc., which operates the Kensington Hotel Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, and Coral Ocean Resort Saipan.

The first flight arrived on Jan. 23, and the second flight came in on Jan. 30. There will be four more Air Busan charters flying into the CNMI on Feb. 6, 13, 20, and 27 under this agreement.

Dems yet to select Saipan mayor bet

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Democratic Party has yet to select who will be the party's candidate for Saipan mayor in the Nov. 8 general election.

In response to *Saipan Tribune*'s inquiry, Rep. Christina Marie Elise Sablan (D-Saipan), the NMI Democratic Party's candidate for governor, said Monday night that, with the gubernatorial and delegate slate now confirmed and announced, their chairwoman, Nola K. Hix, will be announcing the opening of the nomination process for the position of Saipan mayor and others on the ballot.

Sablan said interested members of the public will be invited to submit letters of intent and/or nominations.

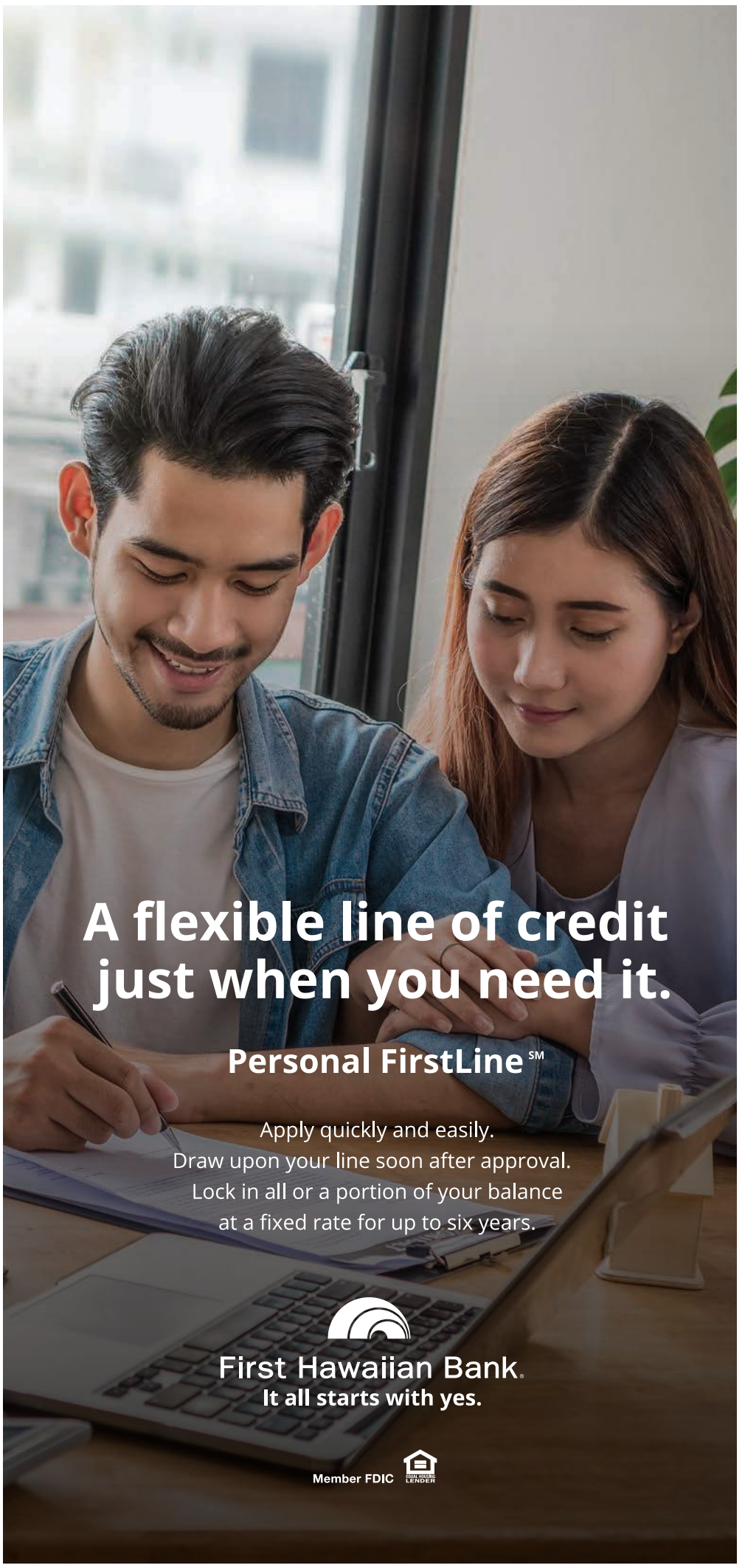
"We expect that announcement to be made very soon," said the lawmaker in a text message.

Rep. Richard T. Lizama (D-Saipan) has expressed an interest to run for Saipan mayor.

Rep. Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero is the Republican Party's candidate for Saipan mayor.

Board of Parole chair Ramon Blas Camacho is also running for Saipan mayor and is hoping to get nominated by the Democratic Party.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) is seeking re-election under the Democratic Party.


A flexible line of credit just when you need it.
Personal FirstLine℠
Apply quickly and easily.
Draw upon your line soon after approval.
Lock in all or a portion of your balance at a fixed rate for up to six years.
First Hawaiian Bank®
It all starts with yes.
Member FDIC
EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

AK SINCE 1914
SIGNATURE USED CARS
Our Name Is Your Guarantee
AKSAIPAN.COM
INTRODUCING
AK SINCE 1914 SIGNATURE CARE
3 YEARS OF FREE SERVICE WITH YOUR NEW OR USED TOYOTA FROM AK.*
• 3 Full Synthetic Lube, Oil, and Filter Services
• 3 Tire Rotations
• 3 Top Off All Fluids
• 3 Multi-Point Inspections
• 1 Cabin Air Filter Replacement
• 1 Engine Air Filter Replacement
• Responsible Oil Disposal
ADDITIONAL BENEFITS
• All Services performed by professional, certified technicians.
• All services are offered at greatly reduced prices.
• Retain a higher value with documented maintenance records.
• Prevent breach of warrantly through proper servicing of your vehicle.
• Great opportunities to renew once contract has expired.
2019 TOYOTA TACOMA 4WD DOUBLE CAB
STOCK #: SP21R0187
Trans: 6-Speed Automatic w/OD
Fuel Efficiency: 18 CITY / 22 HWY
ENGINE: Regular Regular Unleaded V-6 3.5 L/211
Mileage: 15,223
MANAGER'S SPECIAL
NOW $37,999*
Call me LIZA TAYLOR 234-5911
2016 TOYOTA YARIS FWD HATCHBACK
STOCK #: SP21T0155
Drivetrain: FWD
Mileage: 58,916
NOW $14,999*
2017 KIA SPORTAGE LX FWD SPORT UTILITY
STOCK #: SP21P0141
Trans: 6-Speed Automatic w/OD
Mileage: 60,953
NOW $15,999*
2016 SCION IM FWD HATCHBACK
STOCK #: SP21P0169
Trans: 1-Speed CVT w/OD
Mileage: 43,954
NOW $17,999*
2016 MAZDA CX-5 GRAND TOURING AWD
STOCK #: SP21T0198
Trans: 6-Speed Automatic w/OD
Mileage: 34,032
NOW $18,999*
2018 TOYOTA COROLLA IM BASE FWD HATCHBACK
STOCK #: SP21P0185
Trans: 1-Speed CVT w/OD
Mileage: 33,812
NOW $19,999*
2018 TOYOTA CAMRY FWD 4DR CAR
STOCK #: SP21P0176
Trans: 8-Speed Automatic w/OD
Mileage: 43,396
NOW $22,999*
2019 TOYOTA C-HR FWD SPORT UTILITY
STOCK #: SP21P0195
Trans: 1-Speed CVT w/OD
Mileage: 20,327
NOW $23,999*
2017 TOYOTA 4RUNNER 4WD SPORT UTILITY
STOCK #: SP21F0170
Trans: 5-Speed Automatic w/OD
Mileage: 59,423
NOW $28,999*
2019 TOYOTA TACOMA 4WD DOUBLE CAB
STOCK #: SP21P0154
Trans: 6-Speed
Mileage: 18,501
NOW $40,999*
*On approved credit. Conditions apply. See dealer for details.
Fees not included. Mileage may vary.
AK SINCE 1914
Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc.
#1 Chalan Msr Guerrero San Jose, Saipan, MP 96950
Call 234-5911
Showroom Hours:
Monday to Saturday 8am to 5pm
HERE FOR SAIPAN. HERE FOR LIFE.
Online Shopper at AKsaipan.com

CGC certifies 19 in suicide intervention

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Community Guidance Center's Crisis Counseling Program and Behavioral Health Response Program staff pose with QPR trainer Fred Fatialofa, back row, center, after completing the 90-minute Question, Persuade, and Refer training.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Community Guidance Center certified last Jan. 12 a total of 19 employees from three different programs on what is referred to as "Question, Persuade, and Refer," or QPR.

QPR is an evidence-based suicide intervention training program that teaches participants how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help.

The newly-certified employees are from CHCC's Crisis Counseling Program, Behavioral Health Response Program, and CNMI Suicide Prevention Program.

Since 2018, the CGC QPR trainers have certified 1,533 individuals in the CNMI (1,302 from Saipan, 104 from Tinian, and 127 from Rota).

For more information on QPR, visit https://qprinstitute.com/. For more information and to request for the CGC's QPR training, visit https://chcc.gov.mp/communitysupporttraining.php, or contact the CGC Suicide Prevention Program at (670) 323-6560. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-22-010

PROVISION OF OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE, AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE POWER PLANT AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ON THE ISLAND OF TINIAN

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the provision of operations, maintenance, and management services for the Power Plant and Distribution System on the Island of Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **$200.00** (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-22-010*, Operations, Maintenance, and Management Services for The Power Plant and Distribution System on the island of Tinian" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on February 22, 2022** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Co`de (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on February 1, 2022**, to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org, and Christie Sablan at christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids submitted shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 22-043

Opening Date: January 21, 2022
Closing Date: February 3, 2022

POSITION TITLE:	**Trades Assistant**
DEPARTMENT:	**Power Generation**
LOCATION:	**Rota, Northern Marianas Islands, USA**
ANNUAL SALARY:	**$16,742.00 - $22,602.00 per annum, Non-Exempt**
CONTRACT:	**Not contracted**
POSITION(S):	**One (1)**

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Rota Resident Manager or his/her designee. The Trades Assistant assists with the safe and efficient operation of all plant equipment and machinery including, but not limited to, incinerators, generators, operation of valves, plant production operations, and unloading of diesel fuel tank trucks to storage tanks.

Duties:

- Follows all safety and operations procedures during operations and maintenance activities;
- Monitoring Plant systems as assigned;
- Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection;
- Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used;
- Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete;
- Monitors equipment; takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings; prepares and submits data and work reports;
- Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily work activities;
- Assisting with equipment inspections, cleaning, corrosion control, and painting;
- Operating incinerators; oil and water separator pump, servicing and preparing oil filters;
- Maintaining grounds, trimming trees and removing debris and housekeeping;
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:

Education: High School Diploma/GED or ABE Program AS. Training and knowledge in operations repair, and maintenance of power generating and/or industrial equipment/facilities desired but not required.

Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.

Skills in: Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must Able to lift and carry heavy objects of 45 pounds and over, climb ladders, reach above the shoulders, stand, sit, crawl and kneel for prolonged periods and perform repeated bending. Recognize color codes, operate cranes and motor vehicles. Work inside around machinery in operation; in varying degree of temperature in tight or cramped (confined) work spaces, at heights, on ladders or scaffolds, and on slippery or uneven walking surfaces in close proximity to high and low voltage circuits and climbs stairs frequently. Occasionally use solvents, de-greasing agents, or other chemical agents, and be assigned to protracted or irregular hours of work. Work in environments exposed to dust, oil, grease, constant or excessive noise, vibration, and smoke and gas fumes. Work closely with others and/or alone depending on assigned daily activities. Must be available to work a 24/7 rotation shift to include weekends and holidays, may be on call for emergency response.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

P. O. Box 501220, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: (670) 235-5131
CUC is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-22-015

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the supply and delivery of heavy equipment for its fleet in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded from the United States Department of the Interior (US DOI), Office of the Insular Affairs (OIA).

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-IFB-22-015, Supply and Delivery of Heavy Equipment"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on February 3, 2022** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 20, 2022**, to Manny B. Sablan, CUC's Purchasing Administrator, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with copies to Yvonne C. Ogumoro, CUC's Acting Water/Wastewater Division Manager via email at yvonne.ogumoro@cucgov.org and Christie L. Sablan, CUC's Senior Administrative Technician at christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids submitted shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

If you tested **positive** on any FDA-approved at-home test kit

Call CHCC contact tracers for next steps

(670) 286-1710 (670) 285-1942
(670) 286-1711 (670) 287-1652
(670) 287-1683

REMINDER: If you are experiencing severe symptoms of COVID-19, call **911**. Severe symptoms include: trouble breathing; persistent pain or pressure in the chest; new confusion; inability to wake or stay awake; pale, gray, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds, depending on skin tone.

If you are concerned that you may have come in **contact with someone who tested positive**

Call CHCC contact tracers for next steps

(670) 286-1710 (670) 285-1942
(670) 286-1711 (670) 287-1652
(670) 287-1683

REMINDER: Call the CHCC Tele-Triage line at **(670) 233-2067**, or get checked by a health care provider if you are experiencing symptoms.

How do I know if I am considered a high-risk contact to a COVID-19 positive case?

High-risk contacts have been exposed to a COVID-19 positive case and

- are living in the same household
- had face-to-face contact 15 minutes or more, within 6 feet of each other

OR

- had direct physical contact with each other
- have been in a closed environment for more than 15 minutes, within 6 feet of each other

OR

- had unprotected direct contact with infectious secretions (e.g. being coughed on)
- are traveling companions of the known case

Remember to always practice the 3 W's:
Wear your mask, Wash your hands, Watch your distance

Live COVID-19 safe!

GET VACCINATED!

Make sure everyone in your household who qualifies for a COVID-19 vaccination gets vaccinated, or gets a booster shot.

Register for a COVID-19 vaccine at **www.vaccinatecnmi.com**, or walk in for a booster shot.

Learn more at **www.cdc.gov/coronavirus,**

WEAR A MASK

Everyone 2 years or older who is not fully vaccinated should wear a mask in indoor public places.

If you are fully vaccinated, to **maximize protection** and prevent possibly spreading COVID-19 to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission.

Learn more at **www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.**

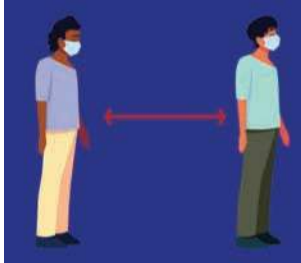
WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands often with soap and water for **at least 20 seconds**, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Learn more at **www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.**

WATCH YOUR DISTANCE



Stay **6 feet away** from others, especially around individuals who are not in your household.

Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread virus.

Learn more at **www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.**

AVOID CROWDS AND POORLY VENTILATED SPACES

Being in crowded places like restaurants, bars, fitness centers, or movie theaters with other people puts you at higher risk for COVID-19.

Avoid indoor spaces that do not offer fresh air from the outdoors as much as possible.

Learn more at **www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.**

GET TESTED IF YOU HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT OR FEEL SYMPTOMS

Testing can give you information about your risk of spreading COVID-19. While you wait for your test results, you should limit your contact with others as much as possible.

Register for free community-based testing at **https://covidtesting.chcc.health**

Learn more at **www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.**

COVER COUGHS AND SNEEZES

- Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or use the inside of your elbow and do not spit.
- If you cough or sneeze into your mask, put on a new, clean mask as soon as possible and wash your hands.
- Wash your hands with soap and water for atleast 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily availablem clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Learn more at **www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.**

CLEAN AND DISINFECT

Clean high touch surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, a nd sinks.

If someone is sick or has tested positive for COVID-19, disinfect frequently touched surfaces.

Learn more at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

MONITOR YOUR HEALTH

Check daily for symptoms like fever, cough, shortness of breath, new loss of taste or smell, or other symptoms of Covid-19,

Monitoring symptoms is especially important if you are running errands, going into the office or workplace, and in settings where it may be difficult to keep a physical distance of 6 feet.

Learn more at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, see a medical provider as soon as possible

@cnmichcc | www.staysafecnmi.com/livecovidsafe

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXXII, Issue No. 23

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

I DON'T THINK JOE ROGAN IS IRRESPONSIBLE.
LIKE I SAID, WE HAVE IRRECONCILABLE DIFFERENCES.
MARRIAGE COUNSELOR
LAS VEGAS SUN 2022
MIKE SMITH
DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE/HAS

EDITORIAL

Rock stars vs. COVID lies: We hope Neil Young and Joni Mitchell have started a thing

Want Spotify to serve up Neil Young's masterpiece "Heart of Gold?"

Forget it.

How about Joni Mitchell's only Top 10 hit, "Help Me?"?

It's not on Spotify anymore, either. And it's all over COVID-19 vaccine misinformation.

Both boomer rock stars, long-known for marching to the beat of their own drummers, have done it again. They have removed their music catalogs from the popular streaming service because Spotify has allowed popular podcaster Joe Rogan to spread misinformation about COVID-19 vaccines.

Good for these two singers.

Young and Mitchell may unleash a revolt if more artists follow with their influential voices. It could be a powerful statement from the artist community.

It's important to note that these two artists, both Canadians, have a unique experience with vaccines: They both contracted polio as children, not long before a vaccine became available.

New York Times music writer Ben Sisario last week wrote that the artistic revolt led by these 1970s rockers matters, and it all started with Young's ultimatum: "Spotify can have Rogan or Young. Not both," Young said in a letter to Spotify earlier this week. Mitchell joined him Friday.

They will both lose up to 60% of the streaming revue from their catalogs. Over the weekend Nils Lofgren and the group Crazy Horse had their music removed, too. Reports that singer Barry Manilow had also joined in were denied by the singer. More prominent names should follow, we hope.

"Young's challenge to Spotify has become a high-profile, if unexpected, flashpoint in the battle over misinformation and free speech online. It also raised questions about the power of performing artists to control where their work is heard," Sisario wrote.

The artists targeted the controversial Rogan, the former host of "Fear Factor," after a group of scientists, professors and public health experts asked Spotify to take down an episode of Rogan's podcast from Dec. 31.

Who left who is now at issue too. Conservative media is announcing that "Spotify removed Young" for criticizing Rogan, not that he demanded to be removed. Semantics.

In the episode that insulted the singers, Robert Malone—a medical doctor and an infectious disease researcher—promoted "several falsehoods about COVID-19 vaccines," according to the group's public letter,

See COVID on Next Page

What are the pandemic-fatigued doing to stay calm? Here's a not-so-scientific study

By JENNIFER S. BANKSTON
Chicago Tribune

Jennifer S. Bankston heads Bankston Marketing Solutions, a strategic marketing and communications company.

Lately, it seems like not sweating the small stuff is all anyone can handle. And sometimes not even that.

I recently watched a man, frustrated by a long line at the pharmacy, ring the bell for service at least 10 times before knocking whatever was on the counter to the floor. His outburst pushed those of us in line, already standing 6 feet apart, further back. His behavior made me think of my own challenges, and how, right along with me, so many of my friends and loved ones are struggling in new and striking ways as we enter a third year of COVID-19.

COVID-19 variants and ambiguity about what do, combined with our increasingly politically charged lives and uncertainty for investors, have fueled confusion and anxiety for many.

So I set forth to figure out how I might feel more peaceful in this new normal by asking people how they are coping—what they are doing to stay coolheaded as stress triggers overheating.

It started with posing a simple question to friends, colleagues and clients. It grew to querying strangers in parks, the supermarket—anywhere I could, as safely as possible, ask people how they were managing, what were they doing to find joy and keep calm.

The answers were heartening, comical and revealing—and some uplifting. I talked to more than 250 people, who provided me with myriad answers.

Unable to restrain the professional marketer in me, I categorized the responses and defined some of the personas.

THE HOBBYISTS

A childhood friend quipped, "Don't judge me. I'm not one to take up hobbies, but three hits from the Reddi-wip can when I finally shut my computer off after work. A creamy, delicious treat that's satisfying." A friend in New Jersey said, "Calm to me is a kettle-boiled bagel with cream cheese. Is a bagel connoisseur a hobby?"

Those weren't the only comfort food and cooking indulgences that came up. People also mentioned gardening, painting, puzzles, games, music and crafts. A teenager told me mastering the cornhole game in his backyard has been his most recent source of serenity.

Many kids answered, "Roblox," a global platform that brings them together through play. I bought some of the company's stock and quickly gained 35% before selling. Not too shabby.

THE THRILL-SEEKERS

A group of 20-somethings, gathered at our local food truck during lunchtime, said they have taken up all sorts of extreme sports, including rock climbing, to lower their stress levels.

I'm not sure if dangling more than 100 feet in the air would relax me, so I will stick with the power of a good walk.

THE CONNECTORS

A small neighborhood group gathered in ugly Christmas sweaters to find the street with the gaudiest holiday lights.

A woman in her mid-20s said she feels overwhelmed right now, but watching pet videos of other people who also have rescue Chihuahuas grounds her.

THE MIND-BODY-SPIRITERS

Some use meditation and spiritual pursuits as tools to keep them calm.

Many went to outdoor yoga classes last year, which made them calmer. But once the classes got crowded, many stopped going because of the stress of not knowing if the class would be filled to capacity, even outdoors.

I received phone numbers and website addresses from people suggesting I contact their tarot card readers and psychics if I wanted to find joy in 2022.

THE JOURNEYERS

A friend quit her job as an investment banker and left New York City to move to Charleston, South Carolina, a place she had never been.

I met a family that had spent four months camping, working remotely and home-schooling their three children, all with only a tent and gear.

Then recently my husband showed up in our driveway with a surprise purchase, an RV the size of a school bus, ready to take off into the wilderness. Would my suede boot collection and hoop earrings fit in one of the storage nooks? I'm still contemplating if the first trip will be peaceful.

THE OTHER BUCKETS

A parent at my daughter's volleyball game answered my question

See WHAT on Next Page

Yokoi, Guam, and the many lessons we can learn from his experience

RICK'S COLUMN
By RICK PEREZ
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rick Perez used to serve in the U.S. military and has work experiences in public policy research and public affairs. He is passionate about national security and geopolitics and runs a newsletter called Guam Affairs at guamaffairs.substack.com. For questions or comments, contact Perez at rickp7839@gmail.com.

Fifty years ago last month, Japanese army sergeant Shoichi Yokoi was spotted by Jesus Duenas and Manuel Garcia, two Chamorro fishermen from the village of Talofofo, who came across the then middle-aged World War II survivor who had been hiding in Guam's jungles for almost 30 years.

Unnerved by the presence of encountering other human beings, Yokoi attempted to engage Mr. Duenas and Mr. Garcia but to no avail. He was overpowered shortly after by these two relatively healthy young Chamorro hunters.

Yokoi lived by himself for almost two decades after the conclusion of World War II, not far from a couple of other Japanese war holdouts, who eventually passed away. From the early 1960s up through his discovery in 1972, Yokoi lived by himself in total isolation.

He survived by living off the land and referenced lunar cycles to tell time. Yokoi also thought that the war never ended and refused to consider surrendering to the United States.

Perseverance and tenacity

Yokoi's doggedness and determination to stay alive and not surrender was generally based on the Japanese ethos of loyalty to country and loyalty to the emperor. Japanese citizens of his generation were indoctrinated to believe that it is better to die for Japan than to surrender because giving up was viewed as dishonoring the emperor, the nation, and the family name.

After Yokoi's discovery, an international media frenzy ensued.

Prior to his departure back to Japan, then-Guam governor Carlos Garcia Camacho—Guam's first locally elected governor, who entering the last half of his term—met with Yokoi.

Yokoi's arrival in Japan conjured up old biases and beliefs endemic to Japanese society, some three decades prior. International fame evoked fascination, anger, and curiosity about Yokoi, Japan, Guam, and the Mariana Islands.

Yokoi made subsequent visits to Guam years afterward, which were taken for a variety of reasons that brought about lamentations and perhaps a desire to find partial solace in a world that was relatively new and somewhat foreign to the former Japanese non-commissioned army officer. Yokoi passed in the late 1990s when Guam was led by *maga lahi* Carl T.C. Gutierrez, a man who was a child during the 1940s wartime era.

Simple things to remember

Yokoi, like our Chamorro family members who experienced the horrors of hot war, keenly understood life's simplicities and challenges derived from both personal and collective daily living circumstances. Yokoi also keenly understood the importance and need for basic daily necessities that revolved around food, clothing, water, and shelter because his existence revolved around keeping himself alive each day over a span of several decades.

Life for Yokoi was spartan by almost any measure, uncomplicated from a physical resource standpoint. It can never be underestimated how this Japanese army soldier mustered the uncommon ability to adapt to the challenges immediately facing him at every moment.

He knew too well that daily decisions made meant life and/or death. His motivation to live was informed by Japan's military and national belief system etched and derived from war with the American nation. In his mind there were no gray areas to maneuver and navigate because giving up was not an option.

Today in our post-digital, artificial intelligence, convenience-centric world, Yokoi, along with all of the experiences of our family members who both died and survived World War II throughout the Mariana Islands, must never shelve, dismiss, discount, and compartmentalize into distilled discussions and afterthoughts because too many of our family members and others suffered or passed as a result of the devastation created from World War II decisions and actions.

Lest we forget

Our Chamorro civilization of the Mariana Islands went through disproportionate suffering as a Deep Blue Ocean continent people during World War II. Our immediate family members saw two large and powerful nations take their violent proclivities to our ancient villages, ranches, jungles, and coastal environments.

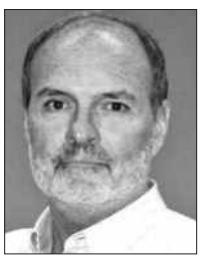
Today as the United States national government and the Chinese Communist Party national government escalate their work on preparing to fight war in a host of ways using a variety of means, now is the time to reflect on just how destructive World War II was for our people, our region, and worldwide.

World War II was the bloodiest war ever fought in human history. Prior to the final meeting between the American Secretary of War and the American Army general in charge of America's nuclear weapons program to discuss the final details to drop the atomic bomb on Japan, 1 million Japanese had already died, upwards of 400,000 American had died, Pacific Islander resources were devastated, and millions of Europeans have died.

The Mariana Islands, particularly Guam, became home base in 1944/1945, supporting thousands of American airplane fire bombing missions initiated against the civilian population of Japan, intended to wear down the fierce will of the Japanese nation, prior to the Tinian-based airplane launch carrying American nuclear bombs.

It is in our collective Pacific Islander interest to remember and think about the challenges overcame by folks like Yokoi, the people of Japan and the United States, and our Chamorro Pacific Islander civilization during and after World War II because many important lessons are contained in these personal historical experiences.

Our nation's fatal lack of imagination



By JOHN M. CRISP
Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at jcrispcolumns@gmail.com.

Sure, optimism is a virtue. I guess.

But when does optimism fade into a complacent obliviousness that blinds us to just how bad things could get?

And things could get very bad. There are a number of ways to illustrate this point, but a few gloomy examples should suffice:

It's very difficult, for example, to imagine a happy ending to the current standoff over Ukraine. We await Vladimir Putin's responses to our responses to his demands, but it would require the most starry-eyed optimist to imagine that he will be satisfied.

If Putin invades Ukraine, turmoil and bloodshed will ensue. The United States will not be immune to their consequences. Whatever happens will probably be only the first battle of a larger war. And it's deeply sobering to consider that the chief players in this dangerous confrontation have nuclear weapons.

What else could go very wrong?

There's the pandemic. We may at last be seeing the far side of a plague that has killed nearly six million people. While COVID-19 has reminded us that our health—even our lives—are at the mercy of biology, it's also reminded us that science works and that humankind has considerable capacity to fight back against diseases that, just a few decades ago, would have killed many more of us.

On the other hand, it's disturbing to consider how badly we've responded to the pandemic in the United States. COVID-19 is a crisis that might have brought our nation together, but it's had very much the opposite effect.

In fact, the staggering divisions that we're currently experiencing weren't caused by the pandemic, but it struck at just the wrong time to make things much worse. The path back to the place where traditional American democracy is possible isn't at all clear, and COVID-19 has tested our commitment to that road. And this won't be the last pandemic.

Finally, the ominous backdrop to all lesser calamities is climate change, the catastrophe that's no longer waiting to happen. New alarms are sounded almost daily, each louder than the last.

Here's a recent one: In the Jan. 17 issue of The New Yorker, Joshua Yaffa reports on the state of permafrost, the frozen soil that comprises about a quarter of the landmass of the Northern Hemisphere. As the climate warms, permafrost is melting and in the process releasing carbon into the atmosphere. Models indicate that permafrost contains 1 1/2 trillion tons of carbon, twice the amount already in the atmosphere.

There is no prospect that permafrost will ever refreeze, and thus a self-perpetuating, downward cycle is underway: as carbon is released, the atmosphere continues to warm and more carbon is released.

Sorry for the gloom. But it's hard to imagine a greater mistake than to adopt oblivious optimism in the face of potential catastrophes such as these. Our biggest challenge is mustering the imagination sufficient to appreciate the magnitude of the disasters ahead of us.

Maybe fiction will help spur our imaginations. These melancholy thoughts happen to coincide with a reading of H. G. Wells' 1897 science fiction classic "The War of the Worlds." Martians have landed and, by means of a powerful heat-ray, they wreak havoc in the countryside as they approach London.

Panic ensues. Few passages in literature are as evocative of catastrophe and chaos as Wells' description of the terrorized throngs fleeing London before the advancing Martians.

But Wells' narrator is a philosopher. He ruminates on humanity's failure to prepare itself for catastrophe. He imagines the now-extinct dodo bird addressing his dodo spouse complacently in his comfortable nest in Mauritius as "pitiless sailors" are landing on the beaches in search of something to eat.

"We will peck them to death tomorrow, my dear."

Our unwillingness to imagine the potential catastrophes—especially climate change—that the future holds prevents us from responding to them in a meaningful way. At best, we are merely pecking around the edges of solutions.

However, unlike Wells' extraterrestrial threats, our threats—and their potential solutions—are entirely homegrown.

COVID

From Page 8

which was issued on Jan. 10.

In past interviews, Malone has compared COVID-19 vaccination efforts in the U.S. to Nazi Germany, and said that Americans are suffering from "mass formation psychosis." Last year, he and other debunked scientists helped circulate the rumor that spike proteins in the COVID-19 vaccines are toxic, a claim that many experts found no evidence for according to PolitiFact. But, because of Malone's medical background and field experience, he speaks the language of science, coming off as knowledgeable and trustworthy. This is what Joe Rogan does best: brings on plausible experts with dangerous takes related to their field. He gives a platform to the unpopular opinions. If only they weren't so completely false. But, hey, "The Joe Rogan Experience" isn't the No. 1 most listened to Spotify podcast in 2021 because it's serving status quo content.

Other platforms are taking action in the form of censorship. Twitter was smart enough to suspend Malone, who has recently gained hundreds of thousands of Twitter followers, for violating its COVID-19 misinformation policies. YouTube has removed the now-viral Dec. 31 conversation between Rogan and Malone from their platform, though it's still able to be discovered through third-party channels. This begs the question: Would censoring Rogan's podcast actually keep people from accessing it, or simply bring more attention to a podcast that continues to make news?

Bravo to Young and Mitchell for using their gifts and influence to support science and the public good. Who else is headed down this moral high road?

© 2022 *Miami Herald*

WHAT

From Page 8

with one of his own: "Who knew teaching my son to drink from a cup instead of buying more juice boxes would bring me joy?"

One woman told me she painted her bedroom four times until she found the right, soothing color but then had anxiety over spending so much money.

After compiling my research, I was reminded that not everything has to be grandiose; simple things can bring pleasure like a bed with clean sheets, or for me, the day the library reopened.

When I went for a recent hike without my phone, I felt a cool breeze as I listened to the sounds of nature. I took delight in a chipmunk scurrying past.

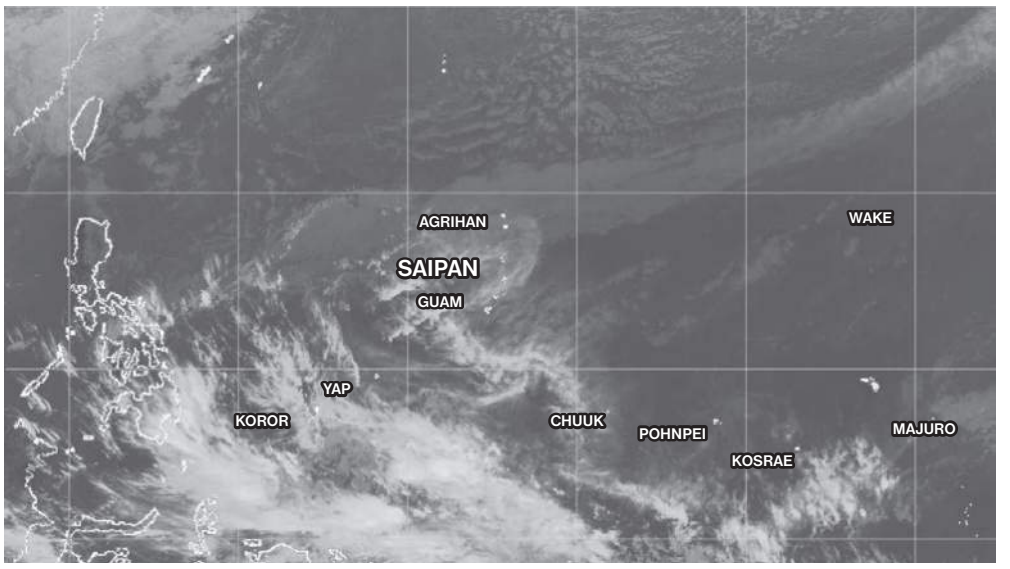
I was calm.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated light showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers. Northeast winds 20 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows in the mid 70s	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows in the mid 70s
85° 76°	85° 76	85° 75°	86° 75°	86° 75°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:38 AM, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam Doppler weather radar shows a line of showers northwest of the Marianas and another to the southeast, with only a few showers over the islands themselves. Satellite shows high clouds moving over the islands this morning. The Ipan buoy reveals combined seas of 4 to 6 feet, composed mainly of southeast well.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	29 / 24 °F
Palau	Scattered Thunderstorms	29 / 25 °F
Yap	Isolated Thunderstorms	29 / 25 °F
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	29 / 26 °F
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	30 / 26 °F
Kosrae	PM Thunderstorms	30 / 26 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	29 / 27 °F

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	06:45 AM	18:15 PM
Wednesday	06:45 AM	18:15 PM
Thursday	06:45 AM	18:16 PM
Friday	06:45 AM	18:16 PM
Saturday	06:44 AM	18:17 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	07:34	19:19 PM	-
Wednesday	08:21	20:17 PM	-
Thursday	09:04	21:12 PM	-
Friday	09:43	22:03 AM	-
Saturday	10:20	22:53 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Cloudy/Wind	24 / 20 °F
Beijing	Sunny	5 / -8 °F
Hong Kong	Shower	17 / 13 °F
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	27 / 20 °F
London	Mostly Cloud	13 / 7 °F
Los Angeles	Sunny	20 / 6 °F
Manila	Partly Cloudy	31 / 25°F
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	19 / 13 °F
Miami	Partly Cloudy	25 / 22 °F
New York	Cloudy	5 / 3 °F
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	9 / 3 °F
Paris	Cloudy	12 / 7 °F
Busan	Partly Cloudy	8 / 0 °F
Rome	Sunny	16 / 2 °F
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	21 / 14 °F
San Francisco	Sunny	18 / 8 °F
Seoul	Sunny	2 / -9°F
Tokyo	Mostly Sunn	11 / 0 °F
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	6 / -2 °F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
02:28 AM	Low Tide	-0.76
02:28 AM	High Tide	1.82
2:58 PM	Low Tide	0.95
7:54 PM	High Tide	1.89

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769.
E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 2022

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:20am	8:05am	2, 4, 6
UA117	9:50am	10:35am	1, 3, 5, 7

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	6:30am	8:20am	1, 5
UA183	8:00pm	9:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	7:20am	9:50pm	2, 4, 6 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via Guam

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

7C3406	3:10PM	6:55PM	Every 4 days (Jan 29-Mar 2)
TW9308	3:30PM	7:20PM	3, 7
OZ6243	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	7

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA116	5:30am	6:16am	2, 4, 6
UA174	8:00am	8:46am	1, 3, 5, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

PR110	10:15pm	4:00am+1	4, 7
UA184	10:40pm	4:30am+1	2, 5
UA184	10:55pm	4:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	10:40pm	6:16am+1	5 via Guam
UA184/174	10:40pm	8:46am+1	2 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55pm	6:16am+1	1, 3 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55pm	8:46am+1	4, 6, 7 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3405	8:30AM	2:10PM	Every 4 days (Jan 29-Mar 2)
OZ6233	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
TW9307	10:00AM	2:20PM	3, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

BX622	8:00AM	1:10PM	7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

Tina Sablan says she's shocked IPI's license still not revoked

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Christina Marie E. Sablan (D-Saipan), the NMI Democratic Party's candidate for governor in the November general election, said the responsibility for Saipan casino licensee, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, falls squarely on Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' administration.

"I'm just frankly shocked that they still have their license, that it still hasn't been revoked," said Sablan in her response to the question during a press conference as to how she will deal with IPI if elected governor.

Describing IPI as "monstrosity" and "a scar in the tourist district," Sablan believes they should not even be talking about what they're going to do with IPI, but rather about what they should do with it now.

Last September and October, Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Andrew Yeom filed five complaints against IPI, each of them seeking the immediate revocation of IPI's exclusive Saipan casino license, for alleged unwillingness to comply with CCC's final order in different enforcement actions that were previously entered. The CCC board has yet to hear the complaints.

Sablan said one of the things they tried to do in the House of Representatives side was insert language in a budget legislation to mandate a market feasibility study to look at the viability of the casino industry, and what options there might be.

Sablan said the COVID-19 pandemic has changed everything, it has changed the future of the gaming industry worldwide, and it has changed the nature of tourism.

"We thought that we would benefit from some professional expertise and impartial expertise, and a study would be a good way to begin," she said.

Sablan underscored the importance of having such feasibility study to help guide decision making and the policies that they would enact going forward.

She said the Senate agreed to keep it in the language but Torres vetoed it. The lawmaker said they tried to override it, but they didn't have the numbers to override the veto.

"And so we'll keep trying. I do think it's important to get the data and really have a realistic picture of how we move forward with the casino industry," Sablan added.

As to which previous CNMI governors they admire the most, Rep. Leila Haveia Fleming C. Staffler, who is Sablan's running mate for the gubernatorial election, said she learned a lot about the late governor Eloy Inos' fiscal responsibility by talking with different people.

Staffler said that when Inos was the Department of Finance chief, he would tell the governor, "No, you cannot get that reimbursed; no, you cannot fly first class."

She said she respects a person at whatever level they are telling the leadership that what they're doing is not right. "If you are following your policies and you have the fortitude to tell that to a superior, that's something that I admire," she said.

Staffler added that she also admired the CNMI's first governor Carlos Camacho's innovation when it comes to thinking. She said Camacho had great innovation about how to protect farmers, for example, with respect for the food stamp system.

The lawmaker said CNMI is in a unique place in the world that has a food stamp system, because it makes sure that a certain percentage of the food stamp is dedicated to local farming.

"That doesn't happen anywhere else," she said.

Sablan said she admired the qualities of the late governor Pedro "Teno" Tenorio, Camacho, and the late governor Froilan Tenorio.

Sablan said Pedro Tenorio was very well loved by many people and that one of his qualities that she admires was that he truly cared about the people that he served. She said she has heard so many things about Pedro Tenorio such as driving himself to work, and doing other little things like being willing to connect with people and helping them in whatever capacity he had in power.

Sablan said she's happy too about former governor Carlos Camacho because the Commonwealth was in such a different place during his term. " I mean, like we were still just setting the basic foundations or laws, of the power plant, the infrastructure," said Sablan, adding that Camacho really was starting from scratch in a lot of ways. She said people can still see Camacho's legacy today, as there were a lot of laws enacted during those years.

Sablan said the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s power plant that Camacho built like 40 some years ago is still the same power plant and that it needs to be overhauled now.

She said she also admired the late governor Froilan Tenorio for building the Beach Road Pathway that she uses almost every day. The lawmaker said that Tenorio received so much criticism for that project at the time as many people didn't understand his vision for why it's important to have something like a pathway that's a place of beauty and a place to exercise.

"We need more places like that. That is also part of our vision for the islands," she said.

Sablan said Tenorio was very determined and tenacious and got it done, and people still enjoy that today.

Public alerted to presence of military aircraft

The CNMI Homeland Security & Emergency Management, along with the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs and the Commonwealth Ports Authority, jointly issued a public advisory yesterday to inform Commonwealth residents of active military aircraft within the Mariana Islands Range Complex this month.

Flight operations will occur on the islands of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Farallon De Medinilla during the month of February as part of the Cope North 2022 Exercises.

Cope North 2022 is a multilateral U.S. Pacific Air Forces field training exercise focused on a Combat Air Force large-force employment operations, as well as humanitarian assistance and disaster response operations to demonstrate mission readiness and interoperability between Japan Air Self-Defense Force, Royal Australian Air Force and the U.S. Air Force.

This joint public advisory is being issued to inform members of the public not to be alarmed of increased sightings of military aircraft associated with this multinational exercise, to include limited cargo vessel movements into the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

All COVID-19 mitigation measures are in place and fully enforced.

Contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at (670) 237-8000 for additional information. ***(PR)***

Relucio makes it to Seton Hall U' dean's list

SOUTH ORANGE, NJ— Ryan Christian Relucio of Saipan has made it to the fall 2021 dean's list. of Seton Hall University in New Jersey.

After the close of every semester, undergraduate students completing all courses with a GPA of 3.4, with no grades lower than "C", qualify for the dean's list.

Seton Hall University is one of the nation's leading Catholic universities, is home to over 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students, and offers more than 90 majors. Seton Hall›s academic excellence has been singled out for distinction by The Princeton Review, US News & World Report and Bloomberg BusinessWeek. Its main campus is located in suburban South Orange, New Jersey, and is only 14 miles by train, bus or car to New York City. The university's nationally recognized School of Law is located in downtown Newark. For more information, visit www.shu.edu. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES
CUC-RAESP-22-002

A&E SURVEY SERVICES FOR THE DANDAN HOMESTEAD WATERLINE AND SERVICE LATERAL REPLACEMENT (W20-074)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified Architectural and Engineering (A&E) firms for the Survey Services of the DanDan Homestead Waterline and Service Lateral Replacement in DanDan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this contract is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Proposers for this RAESP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RAESP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government-observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one RASEP package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **January 19, 2022 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Proposal and One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Cost Proposal in a separate envelope must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RAESP-22-002, A&E Survey Services for DanDan Homestead Waterline and Service Lateral Replacement",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on February 8, 2022. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.**

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers who submit proposal determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from the proposal submitted by competing proposers.

All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Consultant's preparation of a proposal under the contract. The RAESP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the statement of qualifications under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Consultants are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RAESP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on January 24, 2022** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Mr. Larry Manacop, CUC Water/Wastewater, Acting Chief Engineer – via email larry.manacop@cucgov.org; Mr. Kennet Jann R. Bernardo, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email kennet.bernardo@cucgov.org and Ms. Christie L. Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Technician Senior – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

COMMONWEALTH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CEDA)
PO Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. No. 670-234-6245 | Fax: 670-235-7147
Website: www.developcnmi.com

INVITATION TO BID
SILVER 2009 TOYOTA YARIS

Slight damage from Typhoon Yutu | 4 cylinder | 4-door manual windows and locks | AM/FM radio and CD Player | 47,229 miles automatic | power steering and brakes | last serviced in 2019

SOLD "AS IS" AND " WHERE IS"

Visit our website at www.developcnmi.com for bid information and photos.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
MVA IS HIRING!!!

JVA #	VACANT POSITION	OPENING DATE 1/20/22	CLOSING DATE 2/3/22
JVA#22-001:	ACCOUNTANT IV (SAIPAN)		
JVA#22-002:	TRADES TECHNICIAN I (ROTA)		
JVA#22-003:	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/RECEPTIONIST (SAIPAN)		
JVA#22-004:	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (SAIPAN)		

LOCATION: MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

INTERESTED PERSONS MAY CONTACT THE MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY OFFICE AT (670) 664-3200/01 OR VISIT WWW.MYMARIANAS.COM FOR MORE DETAILS.

Accountant – SDA-2022-01
Saipan, CNMI

Accountant, Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School Saipan, CNMI

Prepares annual budget for board approval. Overall in-charge on the accounting and administrative operation of the company. Report to the board of directors regarding the finances of the company on a monthly basis. Prepare, examine and analyze accounting records, financial statements, or other financial report to assess accuracy, completeness and in conformity to reporting and procedural US GAAP standards. Analyze business operations, trends, cost, revenue, financial commitments, and obligation to project future revenues and expenses. Compute the taxes owed and prepare tax returns, ensuring compliance with payment, reporting or other requirements. Review and Analyze monthly billing for all students. Responsible in the monitoring and supervision of Registrar and Office/PR assistant in the daily business operation of the school.

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree in Accounting, 12 months experience in general accounting in school setting. Able to supervise accounting and administrative staff.

Salary: $ 15.76 per hour.

Workplace: CHALAN KIYA ROAD, CHALAN KIYA VILLAGE, SAIPAN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST SCHOOL CAMPUS Saipan, CNMI

To apply: Please send your resume to SDA SCHOOL, PO BOX 501063, Saipan, MP 96950 or e-mail to office@saipansdaschool.org Job Number – SDA-2022-01

RIM Architects to design new nursing, WERI buildings at UOG

The University of Guam finalized an agreement with RIM Architects on Jan. 19 to design a second nursing building and a larger facility for the Water and Environmental Research Institute of the Western Pacific on the UOG campus. The university received an $8.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration in February 2021 to construct the facilities in order to increase the university's capacity to support regional economic development.

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

Back row, from left, Randy Wiegand, UOG vice president of administration and finance and chief business officer; Cathleen Moore-Linn, executive director, Research Corporation of the University of Guam; Anita Borja Enriquez, UOG senior vice president and provost; Glenn Leon Guerrero, UOG director of facilities management and services; Phillip L. Noret, principal, RIM Architects. Seated, from left, Thomas W. Krise, UOG president; and Brent L. Wiese, managing principal - Guam, RIM Architects.

The two-story nursing annex will add classrooms and lab space to the School of Health to facilitate student training within the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program and the Nursing Assistant Education Program and to support caregiver training through the Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program.

The three-story WERI building will add lab and equipment space for commercial water quality testing as well as a research library, conference room, and office space to support the monitoring and studying of the region's freshwater resources.

The U.S. EDA grant will cover 80% of the cost. The remaining 20% will be funded by a local match from the University of Guam, the UOG Endowment Foundation, the Research Corporation of the University of Guam, and funds donated from nursing alumni.

Construction is set to begin in February 2023.

Read more about the projects at url.uog.edu/weri-nursing-bldgs. ***(UOG)***

CPA invites public to town hall meetings

The Commonwealth Ports Authority gave notice yesterday that town hall meetings are being held to address matters surrounding the 2020 audit report, the passenger facility charges audit, and the litigation history between Star Marianas Air and CPA.

The town hall meeting will be held on the following dates:

■ **SAIPAN:** Thursday, Feb. 3, 2022, 6pm in the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport's departure area.

■ **ROTA:** Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022, 6pm in the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport's departure area.

■ **TINIAN:** Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022, 6pm at the Tinian International Airport's departure terminal.

Persons wishing to make comments may do so in person or may email them to cpa.receptionist@pticom.com by no later than 4pm on Feb. 23, 2022. ***(PR)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB22-MOR/DLNR-42200053 (CIF ROTA)

SUBMISSION DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2022 TIME: 09:00 A.M

"(A) PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 35 HP COMMERCIAL - GRADE ZERO - TURN RIDING MOWER, SIDE DISCHARGE DECK, 60"-72" FINISH MOWER DECK B) 6'X12' SINGLE AXLE ALUMINUM WOOD-FLOOR UTILITY TRAILER WITH GATE/RAMP – 2,219 LBS LOAD CAPACITY FOR THE MAYOR OF ROTA, DEPARTMENT OF DLNR"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE HORIGUCHI BLDG. GROUND FLOOR, 123 KOPPA DI ORU & BEACH ROAD, GARAPAN SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

****FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY****

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE MADE TO MR. DAVID M. CALVO, RESIDENT DIRECTOR, VIA EMAIL TO davemcalvo@gmail.com.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ DAVID M. CALVO
RESIDENT DEPARTMENT HEAD

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P.S.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
RFP NO.: RFP22-OGM-42200070

SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 03, 2022 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"COMPREHENSIVE GRANT MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR THE OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT & STATE CLEARNINGHOUSE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE HORIGUCHI BLDG. GROUND FLOOR, 123 KOPPA DI ORU & BEACH ROAD, GARAPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

****FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY****

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP CAN BE MADE TO MR. EPIPHANIO CABRERA, ADMINISTRATOR OF OGM, VIA EMAIL TO epi.cabrera@gov.mp NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS **March 1, 2022**. ALL QUESTIONS SUBMITTED AFTER THE GIVEN DEADLINE WILL **NOT** BE ENTERTAINED. QUESTIONS/AMSWERS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL BIDDERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.
ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P.S.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB22-COR-42200059

SUBMISSION DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2022 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

"FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE HORIGUCHI BLDG. GROUNDN FLOOR, 123 KOPPA DI ORU & BEACH ROAD, GARAPAN, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

****FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY****

A MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON **February 9, 2022 AT 9:30 A.M., LOCAL TIME**, AT THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, TEKKEN STREET, SUSUPE, SAIPAN.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE MADE IN ANY MODE OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION AND MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL TO RITA IGLECIAS, HR MANAGER, **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON FEBRUARY 14, 2022** TO riglecias.doc@gmail.com, OR VIA PHONE AT (670) 237-2704.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ WALLY F. VILLAGOMEZ
COMISSIONER

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P.S.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Tel: (670) 664-2371 | Fax: (670) 664-2408 | Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION TO BID
ITB22-GOV-42200039

SUBMISSION DATE: 10:00 AM February 18, 2022

DOC FIRE ALARM & SPRINKLER SYSTEM REPAIR/REPLACEMENT

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) are soliciting sealed bids for the DOC *Fire Alarm & Sprinkler System Repair/ Replacement* Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). This project will be funded by the 702 Covenant funding under the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs.

The project package will be available in digital format only on **January 19, 2021** at the Capital Improvement Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, during regular working hours. **This project will require US Treasury Listed Payment and Performance Bonds.**

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the project site, Marpi, Saipan, CNMI at **10:00 AM ChST February 3, 2022.** Proposers may request to participate via phone call or virtually five (5) days prior to the meeting scheduled. All attendees are required to use a face mask and exercise social distancing throughout the duration of the meeting.

Questions regarding this ITB may be sumitted via email to Ms. Nerissa Benavente at nerissa.benavente@gov.mp no later than **4:30 PM ChST February 8, 2022**. All Questions & Answers will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI must fill out and submit the Notice of Intent to Bid Form to the Director of Procurement Services no later than **9:30 AM February 18, 2022**.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS, AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor, CNMI

/S/ Francisco C Aguon, Acting Director
CNMI Procurement Services

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

NMHC JVA NO.	Positions:	Salary:	Opening Date	Closing Date
2022-004	CDBG-DR Projects Administrative Specialist (1-Position)	UNGRADED $25,000.00-$30,000.00 per annum	Jan. 19, 2022	Feb. 03, 2022 4:00 PM

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be accessed at www.nmhcgov.net and www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com.

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; the CDBG-DR Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Ladera Building, Chalan Laulau, Beach Road or email application and documents to officemanager@nmhcgov.net.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670)234-6866/9447or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/
JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Free course on Marianas archaeology sites

MICHAEL CARSON/UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

Prehistoric latte stone ruins at the House of Taga archaeological site on Tinian.

Carson

Students and working professionals worldwide will have an opportunity to learn more about archaeology in the Marianas in an upcoming virtual minicourse hosted by the University of Guam's Micronesian Area Research Center.

The course, titled "Archaeology and Heritage Sites of Guam and the Marianas Region: Skills and Knowledge for Working Professionals," is a free educational program with no prerequisites open to all members of the public. Through virtual interactive resources and learning exercises, participants will learn the most updated information about the scope and range of archaeology and heritage sites of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The course will consist of five two-hour Zoom sessions—held from 10am to noon CHST every Tuesday and Thursday from March 1 to March 15. Each session will be led by Michael Carson, an associate professor of archaeology at the University of Guam who holds a doctorate in anthropology.

"This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in archaeology—especially government officials working for museums and historic preservation sites. Through this course, they will be able to gain updated knowledge and skills that they can apply to their jobs," Carson said.

Participants who complete the total course will receive one continuing education unit and a certificate of completion from the university.

Those interested in enrolling can email the UOG Global Learning and Engagement office at uog.gle@triton.uog.edu for a registration form. Completed registration forms must be emailed back by Wednesday, Feb. 23. The course is limited to 500 participants.

For more information about the course, contact Carson at mtcarson@triton.uog.edu. ***(PR)***

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514 | Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp | Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

Tels: (670) 233-9447
233-9448
233-9449
233-9450
Fax: (670) 234-9451

NUTISIAN PUPBLIKU

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT MITIGATION (CDBG-MIT)

Para todu ni man interasao na taotao, indibiyuat, ahensa, yan gurupu siha:

I Commonwealth gi San Kattan na Islas Mariånas (i CNMI), para hu risibi $16,225,000 ni Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) na fundu ginen i Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019, yan i U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Lamitåhå pat $8,112,500 nu esti na CDBG-MIT na fundu debi na hu ma usa gi HUD-identified "Most Impacted and Distressed" na lugåt siha giya Saipan yan Tinian.

I ofisinan i maga'låhi as Ralph DLG. Torres yan i Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, para u manafanungu' i henerål pupbliku put esti i **Post-Release Virtual Public Hearing** gi Febreru dia disi sais gi alas nuebi gi oga'an yan ma fafaisen i publiku para u famanoppi' ni esti CDBG-MIT Initial Draft na Action Plan desdi Febreru dia onsi esta Abrit dia dos. I Initial Draft na NMHC CDBG-MIT na Action Plan siempre ma publika gi Febreru dia onsi. siña ma'akses i CDBG-MIT website gi: https://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com/CDBG-MIT/ yan machuli' kopia gi ufisinan i NMHC siha ni gaigi iya Saipan, Tinian, yan Luta. Kumu intiresao hao mu patisapao gi esti na Post-Release Virtual Public Meeting, halom gi Zoom gi:

Topic: CDBG-MIT Post-Release Virtual Public Meeting
Time: Feb 16, 2022 09:00 AM Guam, Port Moresby
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88408312951?pwd=QzlVWThTa3hWa2FkSUJHUTlaWlpqUT09

Gi esti na Post-Release Virtual Public Meeting, siempre ma diskuti i mantinattiyi:

- Public Infrastructure Mitigation Activities

I NMHC siempri ha chuli' rasonåpbli na manera para u na'siguru na i espisiat "very low-, low-," yan "moderate income" na petsona siha, kuntodu i tåotåo ni gai disibilidåt yan i tåotåo ni man "Limited English Proficiency (LEP)" para hu confotma gi Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 yan i Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 na managuaha dibåtde na akses para u mås makumprendi i prugråma yan parehu na uputunidåt para u fampattisipåo gi halum esti impottånti na aktibidåt.

Yanggin malagu' håo mås infotmasion put i mamensiona na prugråman CDBG-MIT, put fabot ågang si Señot Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, pat si Señorita Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director, pat si Señot Kimo M. Rosario, Program Manager, gi ufisinan NMHC gi numeru (670) 234-6866/9447 pat bisita i NMHC CDBG-MIT website gi https://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com/CDBG-MIT/ Hafa na tinigi' siña ma fax guatu gi (670) 234-9021, ma mail gi P.O. Box 500514 Saipan, MP 96950, pat email gi cnmi-cdbg-dr@nmhcgov.net.

/s/ Ralph DLG Torres, Maga'låhi
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514 | Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp | Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

Tels: (670) 233-9447
233-9448
233-9449
233-9450
Fax: (670) 234-9451

PUBLIC NOTICE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT MITIGATION (CDBG-MIT)

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, INDIVIDUALS, AGENCIES, AND GROUPS:

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) will receive $16,225,000 in Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds made available by the *Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019* and through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). 50% of CDBG-MIT funds or $8,112,500 must be utilized in HUD-identified "Most Impacted and Distressed" areas of Saipan and Tinian.

Notice is hereby given that the Office of the Governor through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) will be conducting a ***Post-Release Virtual Public Meeting*** on February 16, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. and is soliciting for citizen input and suggestions on NMHC's for its CDBG-MIT Action Plan commencing on February 11, 2022 to April 2, 2022. The Initial Draft of NMHC's CDBG-Action Plan will be released on February 11, 2022 and may be accessed and viewed at NMHC's CDBG-MIT website: https://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com/CDBG-MIT/ and obtained at any of NMHC's offices located on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and subject to copying fees.

The main purpose of this public notice is to inform the public about program requirements and regulations concerning the usage of mitigation funds. If you wish to participate in the Post-Release Virtual Meeting and share your comments, please join the meeting at Zoom:

Topic: CDBG-MIT Post-Release Virtual Public Meeting
Time: Feb 16, 2022 09:00 AM Guam, Port Moresby
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88408312951?pwd=QzlVWThTa3hWa2FkSUJHUTlaWlpqUT09

The scheduled Post-Release Virtual Public Meeting will cover the following topics:

- Public Infrastructure Mitigation Activities

NMHC will provide language assistance to Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons, especially those who are very low-, low-, and moderate income, free of charge, upon request and other related services are also made available in format that is accessible for persons with disabilities as provided for in the Effective Communication requirements under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Further information on the CDBG-MIT Program may be obtained by contacting Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director or Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director, or Mr. Kimo M. Rosario, Program Manager, at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by visiting NMHC's CDBG-MIT website at: https://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com/CDBG-MIT/. Written comments may be faxed to Fax No.: (670) 234-9021, mailed to P.O. Box 500514 Saipan, MP 96950, or emailed to cnmi-cdbg-dr@nmhcgov.net.

/s/ Ralph DLG Torres, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514 | Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp | Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

Tels: (670) 233-9447
233-9448
233-9449
233-9450
Fax: (670) 234-9451

ARONGORONGOL TOULAP

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT MITIGATION (CDBG-MIT)

NGÁLIR ALONGER IKKA REMWESCHEL YÁÁMI KKELA CITIZENS, INDIVIDUALS, AGENCIES BWAL GROUP:

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) ebwe receive-li $16,225,000 mellòl Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funds reel ebwe ayoor mille *Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019* bwal mereel U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). 50% CDBG-MIT funds me ngare $8,112,500 efil ebwe yàayàalong lòll mille HUD-identified "Most Impacted and Distressed" bwuley kkeey mewòòl Seipèl bwal Tchileyòl.

Iyeey arong bwe Bwulasiyol Sòulemelem bwe Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) ebwe ayoora mille ***Post-Release Virtual Public Meeting*** wòòl Maischigh(February) 16th, 2022 òtol ye 9:00 a.m. me ebwal tingòr maamaaw ngalir citizen rebwe bwal isiisilong yaar màngemàng reel yaal NMHC's CDBG-MIT Action Plan iye ebwe bweletà wòòl Maischigh(February) 11th ngali April 02nd 2022. Bweletààl(Initial) Draft reel NMHC's CDBG-Action Plan nge ebwe toowow llòl Maischigh (Febuary) 11th 2022 me emmwal ubwe amweril reel NMHC's CDBG-MIT website : https://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com/CDBG-MIT/ bwal ngare ubwe bweibwogh schèèl nge ubwe mwetelò reel akkàaw bwulasiyol NMHC's mewòòl Seipèl(Saipan) , Tchileyòl(Tinian) bwal Lutà(Rota) bwelle reel yaal copying fees.

Reel bwelùl arongorongol toulap yeel nge reel igha ebwe aghuleey ngaliir toulap reel meta kka yaal program yeel requirements bwal allèghùl (regulations) reel yàayàal mitigation funds yeel. Ngare eghal yoor le e tipeli ebwe toolong llòl mille Post Release Virtual Meeting reel ubwe isisilong yòòmw màngemàng. Ellet lee nge tabweey meeting yeel reel Zoom:

Topic: CDBG-MIT Post-Release Virtual Public Meeting
Time: Feb 16, 2022 09:00 AM Guam, Port Moresby
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88408312951?pwd=QzlVWThTa3hWa2FkSUJHUTlaWlpqUT09

Reel yaal scheduled Post-Release Virtual Public Meeting nge ebwe cover-li topic yeel:

- Public Infrastructure Mitigation Activities

NMHC ebwe ayoora alillis reel sàssàlil kkapas ngalir aramas kka rese kkol metaf llòl kkapasal English. Eghi lap ngalir ikka eghi sòssòl bwal moderate yaar income, esòòr abwòs (free of charge) ngalir ikka re tingòr akkàaw alillis reel igha ebwe yoor llòl format ye ebwe accessible ngalir aramas kka re disability me a lo mille Effective Communication requirements faal Section 504 mellol Rehabilitation Act of 1973 bwal reel Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Reel maas information reel mille CDBG-MIT Program reel ubwe maas metaf faal nge ubwe ffaingi, Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director me ngare Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director, me ngare Mr. Kimo M. Rosario, Program Manager reel Northern Marianas Housing Corporation at (670) 234-6866/9447 me ngare toolong llòl NMHC's CDBG-MIT website at: https://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com/CDBG-MIT/. Reel ubwe ischiitiw yòòmw màngemàng nge ubwe faxed ngàli Fax No.: (670) 234-9021, ngare eew mail-li ngàli P.O. Box 500514 Saipan, MP 96950, ngare eew email-li, cnmi-cdbg-dr@nmhcgov.net.

/s/ Ralph DLG Torres, Sòulemelem
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Good Housekeeping

Inspire envy with green

By CATHY HOBBS
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

What accent color is modern, versatile and fresh? Enter the color green. Green can easily blend with various styles and other colors. From traditional to modern styles, green can serve as your secret weapon.

What are some ways that green can be used in your space? Here are some top tips.

DO'S

1. Do begin your color story with a shade of green.
2. Do choose an inspirational piece and build a color palette around it.
3. Do consider various ways to infuse color, such as artwork and toss pillows.
4. Do look for ways to bring in pops of color.
5. Do choose a shade of green based on the mood you wish to create.

DONT'S

1. Don't blend too many different tints, tones and shades of green in a small space.
2. Don't overwhelm. Use green in deliberate and purposeful ways.
3. Don't overlook opportunities to bring in large elements of green, such as oversized upholstered pieces.
4. Don't ignore unexpected ways to incorporate color, such as an accent wall and other overall wall color.
5. Don't overlook greenery as an opportunity to introduce green into a space.

PROVIDED PHOTO/TNS
A library painted with green as its accent color feels warm and cozy.

Should I install a driveway alarm?

By PAUL POGUE
ANGIE'S LIST

Just like a security light attached to a motion sensor, a driveway alarm uses a wired or wireless sensor to inform you when someone's walked or driven onto your driveway.

A few of our experts weigh in on different driveway alert systems and the pros and cons of wired and wireless alarm options.

What is a driveway alarm system?

"They're mounted on a post in your driveway, and it sets off a chime inside your house whenever something moves in front of the sensor," says Randy Reed, owner of Reed Brothers Security in Oakland, Calif. "You'll know if someone is walking or driving down your driveway. It comes in handy if you're waiting on a package delivery or the postman."

Joe Fabrizio, owner of JFab Design in Worcester, Pa., says driveway alerts come in two basic types: easily installed wireless sensors and more complex wired systems with lines buried in the yard.

How much do driveway alarms cost?

For a good wireless alert system from a trusted manufacturer such as Optex, Reed says to be prepared to pay a few hundred dollars. "You can buy a knockoff system for cheaper than that, but if you buy generic, you'll be paying for it in decreased quality," he says.

A wired system from a manufacturer such as Cartell can cost up to a few thousand dollars, according to Fabrizio, because it involves more parts, professional expertise and running one or more lines across your yard.

What are the advantages of a buried system over a wireless alarm?

Although it's more expensive, Fabrizio says a buried system offers much more flexibility.

"It's more robust and can do a lot more than just set off a chime," he says. "You can wire it into a home automation system and program it to do specific things at specific times. You might have certain lights turn on for a certain period of time as a car comes through, so you're not pulling up to a dark house.

"I just wired a house so that all the speakers set off a sound when a car comes through, but they only do it during the day, so you don't get the loud sound at night," Fabrizio adds.

He says buried systems can also communicate with mobile devices. For instance, you can receive a text message whenever a car comes into your driveway.

A buried system also offers more precision, since it measures the size of whatever's passing by it and only sets off for something larger, such as a car. A wireless sensor usually uses a beam of light and sets off whenever something breaks the beam.

"It's just there to tell you something moved out front," Reed says. "A dog or bird can set it off as easily as a car."

Should you do it yourself?

Reed says homeowners can install a wireless alarm system themselves without much trouble.

"You plug in one box in an outlet inside, and the other box on a post outside," he says. "You just need to make sure you don't place it so far that the signal can't reach inside your house. You'll get the best range if there's a direct line of sight with as few obstructions as possible between the two units. The average range is about 200 feet."

Fabrizio says homeowners should leave wired systems to the professionals, since it involves burying electrical lines and connecting to the house's physical wiring.

NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JOANN DERSON
(C) 2022 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

■ If you store nail polish in the fridge, it will dry more quickly and last longer.

■ "In cold winter months, keep your robe (and slippers or whatever else) under the covers with you when you sleep. Pull it next to or over you a few minutes before you get up. It'll be toasty and will help make the transition into the cold a little less harsh."

-- G.G. in New York

■ As tax time draws ever closer, try taping a large manila envelope to the fridge, leaving the top open. Immediately place all tax-related forms and receipts in the envelope as they come in. This way, when you are ready to start your taxes, all items will be together and easy to find.

■ "To help moisten really dry feet, slather on lotion, wrap feet in plastic wrap, then slip on some socks overnight —or for as long as you can stand it."

-- B.H. in Michigan

■ * "My no-iron tip: I toss the wrinkly garment into the dryer for about five to 10 minutes with a damp washcloth, and it steams most wrinkles out. It won't look starched and pressed, but it's good enough for casual wear or running-late mornings. I haven't ironed in years."

-- E.W. in Florida

■ Don't forget to clean your washing machine every so often by running it on the highest-temperature cycle empty after adding a gallon of vinegar. This will clean out the hoses and get rid of stuck-on detergents.

■ To remove soot from your carpet, sprinkle it with salt, let sit and then vacuum. Repeat as many times as necessary to remove all traces.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

Life & Style

Rihanna is pregnant, debuts bump on stroll with A$AP Rocky

NEW YORK (AP)—Rihanna and A$AP Rocky took an epic stroll over the weekend in snowy New York to reveal she's pregnant with her first child.

Despite the frigid temperatures, the 33-year-old "Diamonds" singer and fashion mogul showed off her bump in a long open pink coat (vintage Chanel) and ripped jeans as her boyfriend beamed by her side in Harlem, which is A$AP's home neighborhood.

In one photo, the two hold hands with smiles on their faces In another, he kisses her forehead. Her bump was well adorned with a long jeweled necklace. The photos were published by People.

Rihanna spoke of motherhood in 2019 at her fifth Diamond Ball in New York City:

"I'm a Black woman. I came from a Black woman, who came from a Black woman, who came from a Black woman, and I'm going to give birth to a Black woman. It's a no-brainer. That's who I am. It's the core of who I am in spirit and DNA."

After months of dating rumors, the two publicly transformed their longstanding friendship into a romance during the pandemic. In an interview with GQ magazine in May 2019, A$AP called her "my lady" and "the love of my life." Of the relationship, the "PMW" rapper spoke of their travels the previous summer in a rented tour bus and how the experience cemented their bond.

Asked what it felt like to be in a relationship after his past as a ladies' man, he said: "So much better when you got the One. She amounts to probably, like, a million of the other ones. I think when you know, you know. She's the One."

He also spoke of having children in the future, telling GQ: "If that's in my destiny, absolutely. … I think I'd be an incredible, remarkably, overall amazing dad. I would have a very fly child."

No further details about the pregnancy were disclosed.

AP

In this combination photo, A$AP Rocky attends the Pre-Grammy Gala And Salute To Industry Icons in Beverly Hills, Calif. on Feb. 9, 2019, left, and Rihanna attends her Savage X Fenty Show Vol. 3 premiere in New York on Sept. 22, 2021.

New York Times buys viral word game Wordle

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Times said on Monday that it has bought Wordle, the free online word game that has exploded in popularity and, for some, become a daily obsession.

It listed the purchase price as being in the "low-seven figures," but did not disclose specifics.

The Times, which has popular word games like Spelling Bee and its crossword puzzle, said "at the time it moves to The New York Times, Wordle will be free to play for new and existing players, and no changes will be made to its gameplay."

Wordle was created by Josh Wardle, a Brooklyn software engineer. He originally made it for his partner, but released it to the public in October. On Nov. 1, only 90 people had played it. Within two months, that number had grown to 300,000 after people began sharing their scores on social media.

Now, the simple puzzle that lets players guess a five-letter word in six tries with no hints, has millions of daily players, The Times said. It's also become a viral online phenomenon, spurring copycats like "Airportle," where you guess airport abbreviations, and "Queertle," with words for the queer community.

To play Wordle now, you have to visit its website. Simply type in a five-letter word. If any letters turn green, you got the right letter in the right place. Yellow letters mean right letter wrong place and gray letters mean they are not in the word of the day.

Wordle's appeal has been in part due to its simplicity, no bells and whistles or ads or asking for your email address to play—just a website with 30 blank squares and a keyboard. Some apps have tried to piggyback on its success, confusing people who downloaded—or even paid for—apps on their phone thinking it's the original Wordle.

Rachel Maddow taking hiatus from MSNBC show until April

Maddow

NEW YORK (AP)—Rachel Maddow, MSNBC's most popular personality, said Monday she will be taking a hiatus from her prime time show until April to work on a new podcast and that a movie is being made of her first book and podcast about former Vice President Spiro Agnew.

"Change is good," she said on her show. "Change is absolutely terrifying, but in this case it's good."

She said she's going to help out with the movie of "Bag Man" on former President Richard Nixon's disgraced vice president, to be directed by Ben Stiller and produced by "Saturday Night Live" executive producer Lorne Michaels.

Maddow gave no details on her second podcast, being made for NBC Universal.

"I am super-excited to tell you about it when I have more to tell," said Maddow, who hosted her show from her home on Monday because she had been exposed to someone who had tested positive and shown symptoms of COVID-19.

Although she'll be off from her regular show starting on Friday, she's expected to appear during MSNBC's coverage of some major events, like President Joe Biden's State of the Union address. Ali Velshi, her most frequent substitute host, and other MSNBC personalities are expected to fill in on the regular evening telecast.

Maddow's absence could be a glimpse into MSNBC's future. It has been widely reported that Maddow will step back from hosting her program every night as part of a new contract with the network, although MSNBC has never commented on that. Maddow hinted at it Monday by saying there will be "more hiatuses in the future."

Avenatti wavers on testifying in trial vs. Stormy Daniels

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Avenatti wavered Monday when asked whether he plans to take the witness stand in his own defense at a fraud trial in which he's accused of stealing $300,000 in book proceeds from porn actor Stormy Daniels.

Avenatti, who is acting as his own attorney, first told U.S. District Judge Jesse Furman he hadn't made up his mind about testifying. A few minutes later, he said, "At this point in time, I'm not intending on testifying."

The exchange came after the government rested its case in federal court in Manhattan in which Avenatti is expected to put on the bulk of his defense case Tuesday. If he doesn't take the stand, closing arguments could come as early as Wednesday.

Daniels was the prosecution's star witness, telling jurors last week that she had hired the California lawyer in early 2018 to represent her in her claims against former President Donald Trump.

Daniels wanted out of a nondisclosure deal with Trump so she could speak publicly about having a sexual tryst with him. Trump has denied the claims.

Prosecutors say Avenatti ended up cheating the entertainer out of nearly $300,000 of her $800,000 publisher's advance on her tell-all 2018 autobiography, "Full Disclosure." They say the lawyer spent some of the money on airfare, food and payroll for his debt-ridden law firm.

When Daniels was asked her reaction when she learned in February 2019 that payments from her publisher that were made months earlier had never been passed along to her, she said she was "very, very angry. Shocked. Disbelief. Hurt, and I felt very betrayed and stupid."

Divorced father hopes to reenter daughter's life

DEAR ABBY: My ex-wife and I were divorced seven years ago. It was my doing. I had two affairs, the second of which resulted in my current marriage. I have always regretted my actions and the pain it caused, and I vowed to never make that mistake again.

My ex is happily remarried, but here's the problem: We have a daughter in her late 20s who seemed to adjust to our situation quickly. However, her mother has turned our daughter against me to the point where she has cut off all contact. It has been nearly three years and it eats away at me every day. Her mother has completely brainwashed her. I recently found out my daughter is pregnant, which has made it worse.

As it stands, I'll have no contact with my grandchild, while my ex rubs it in my face. Abby, I've never said a bad word about my ex, even though I know she's not a good person. She has used people, stolen, cheated and lied most of her life and apparently continues to do so. She's told outright lies about me to our daughter and others.

I have admitted my misdeeds, but my ex can't or won't do the same. I want to expose her, but I know I can't if I want any hope of reconciliation with my daughter. How can I talk to my daughter, at least to get closure?

SAD DAD IN OHIO

DEAR DAD: Send your daughter a REGISTERED letter telling her how much you love her and congratulating her on her pregnancy. At the same time, without pointing fingers at your ex-wife, which might only further alienate your daughter, explain that some of the things she may have been told about you aren't true and you would like to discuss them with her. Then cross your fingers and hope she agrees.

***

DEAR ABBY: I'm a married woman in my early 40s with two small children. I am blessed to enjoy a close relationship with my parents, both of whom are now in their mid-to-late 70s. My siblings and I all live within 15 minutes of them, and we spend a lot of time together for holidays, special occasions and general get-togethers.

Lately, I can't stop thinking about my parents dying. It will be awful once they are gone. It has reached a point where if one of them gets a cold, I'm terrified it will turn into something more serious. I'm also scared that something else traumatic might happen, and I dread receiving that phone call.

I don't know how to stop thinking like this. I know death is a part of life, but I don't want every day to be clouded by thoughts of something bad happening. Is there any way to have a healthier mindset?

LOVING DAUGHTER IN TEXAS

DEAR DAUGHTER: There is more than one way to approach this. The first would be to turn off the news for a week and see if it lowers your level of anxiety, which may stem from the incessant drumbeat of reporting about COVID. If that doesn't help, then it might benefit you to talk with a licensed mental health practitioner for help to ease your anxiety by getting to the root of what is causing it. If your parents are in good health, they may be with you for many years to come. It would be a shame to waste that precious time because of fears about what will one day happen to us all.

DEAR ABBY

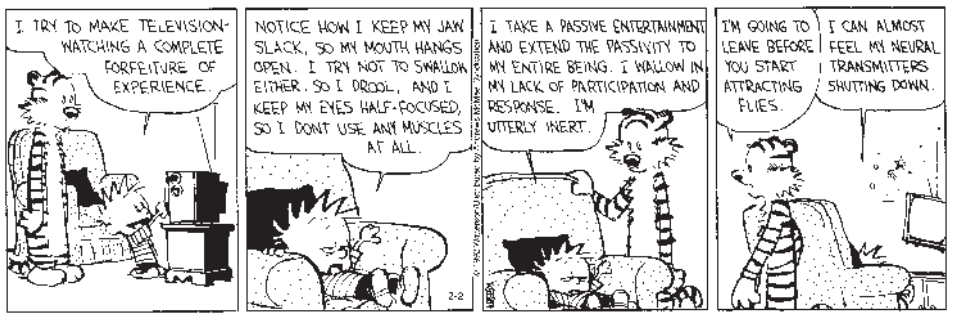
By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I TRY TO MAKE TELEVISION-WATCHING A COMPLETE FORFEITURE OF EXPERIENCE.
NOTICE HOW I KEEP MY JAW SLACK, SO MY MOUTH HANGS OPEN. I TRY NOT TO SWALLOW EITHER. SO I DROOL, AND I KEEP MY EYES HALF-FOCUSED, SO I DONT USE ANY MUSCLES AT ALL.
I TAKE A PASSIVE ENTERTAINMENT AND EXTEND THE PASSIVITY TO MY ENTIRE BEING. I WALLOW IN MY LACK OF PARTICIPATION AND RESPONSE. I'M UTTERLY INERT.
I'M GOING TO LEAVE BEFORE YOU START ATTRACTING FLIES.
I CAN ALMOST FEEL MY NEURAL TRANSMITTERS SHUTTING DOWN.

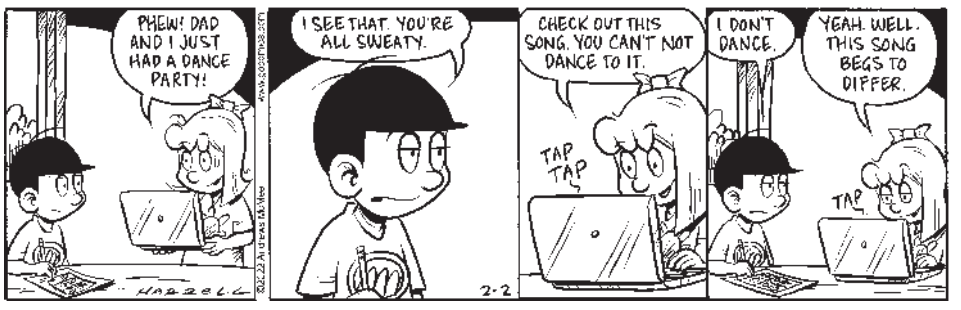
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

HEY, WE WERE EVICTED FROM THE CAT NEXT DOOR. CAN WE STAY WITH YOU?
I KNOW SOMEPLACE EVEN BETTER...
AND CHECK OUT THE SPACIOUS EARS
NICE!
JIM DAVIS 2-2

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


PHEW! DAD AND I JUST HAD A DANCE PARTY!
I SEE THAT. YOU'RE ALL SWEATY.
CHECK OUT THIS SONG. YOU CAN'T NOT DANCE TO IT.
I DON'T DANCE.
YEAH. WELL. THIS SONG BEGS TO DIFFER.
TAP TAP
TAP
2-2

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

NEED ANY HELP?
THESE SHIRTS ARE EXPENSIVE. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING LESS PRICEY?
IF YOU GO DOWN A FLOOR, THE SHIRTS ARE ABOUT $10 LESS. THINGS ARE CHEAPER THE LOWER YOU GO.
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE A LEVEL NEAR THE EARTH'S CORE, WOULD YOU?

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Cleaning cloth
4 Long tale
8 Stage show
12 French vineyard
13 Trucker with a handle
14 Ready for harvest
15 — Lingus
16 Six
18 Riyadh resident
20 Minivan alternative
21 AOL and MSN
24 Obeys
28 Henry Hudson's ship
32 Rabbit's tail
33 "The Greatest"
34 Bulgaria's capital
36 "Yo!"
37 Incite
39 Minim, in music
41 Play the banjo
43 Boxing arbiters
44 Dandy guy
46 Paint base
50 50% off
55 Leg, in slang
56 Curved molding
57 Apple on a desk
58 "— had it!"
59 Equal
60 Monastery man
61 Swamp

DOWN
1 Early TVs
2 Region
3 Mentor
4 Rifts
5 Lawyers' org.
6 Solidify
7 Barks
8 Verifies
9 Actress Taylor
10 Chest-beating beast
11 Hankering
17 "Gee, ya think?"
19 "What's the —?"
22 Milne bruin
23 To date
25 Repeat
26 Song for two
27 Eyelid woe
28 Crones
29 Oodles
30 Deceitful person
31 Cleopatra's river
35 "Argo" director
38 Bad golfer
40 Code-breaking gp.
42 Unruly do
45 Prudish
47 End-of-wk. cry
48 Roof overhang
49 Marvel superheroes
50 Short trip
51 Bio stat
52 Director Ang
53 "As I see it," in a text
54 Soup container

Solution time: 23 mins.

B	L	A	B		M	E	_	D		N	A	M
B	E	T	A		E	R	I	E		I	T	E
C	O	L	D	S	N	A	P	S		G	I	O
			G	O	U	T		P	S	H	A	W
H	O	P	E	S			_	A	_	T		
C	R	O	S	S		H	I	B	I	S	C	U	S
B	A	W		F	U	R	O	R		A	I	E
A	N	E	W	O	N	E	S		S	P	E	C
			R	A	C	K			A	P	S	E	S
B	A	N	T	U		E	E	R	O			
O	V	A		S	A	N	D	T	R	A	P	S
B	E	P		O	_	I	N		_	R	E	S
F	R	S		N	A	D	A		S	K	I	N

Yesterday's answer 2-2

1	2	3	■	4	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12			■	13				■	14			
15			■	16				17				
18			19		■	■	20			■	■	■
■	■	■	21		22	23	■	24		25	26	27
28	29	30					31	■	32			
33			■	34				35	■	36		
37			38	■	39				40			
41				42	■	43				■	■	■
■	■	■	44		45	■	■	46		47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54		■	55		
56				■	57				■	58		
59				■	60				■	61		

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Shakira, 45; Christie Brinkley, 68; Brent Spiner, 73; Graham Nash, 80.

Happy Birthday: Keep things in perspective, chill out and simplify your life. Take on what's necessary, and concentrate on what's important. Tunnel vision will help you set a pattern that leads to success. Aim for steady progress, and deny anyone the chance to confuse or tempt you to deviate from your chosen path. Put self-improvement, romance and a positive lifestyle first. Your numbers are 6, 17, 21, 25, 33, 39, 46.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Knowing what you want is half the battle. Draw from people you know you can rely on for positive input and solid facts. Don't disregard the past; learn from your mistakes, and choose the path that offers peace of mind. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Step into the spotlight. Regardless of how nervous you are or what discouragement you receive from jealous bystanders, you are ready to perform. Pick yourself up and do what you do best, and the rest will be history. Believe in yourself. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* You'll face opposition if you are too open about what you plan to do next. Focus on how best to proceed, pay attention to detail, follow through with confidence and use your ability to reach your goal with or without help. ✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Pick up the pieces, put them together and make headway. Look at the possibilities, and use your persuasiveness to encourage others to see things your way. Paint a broad picture and color it with positivity and the promise of prosperity. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Don't feel you need to jump if someone tells you to or asks for something. Take your time and decide what's best for you. Pay more attention to your finances, and don't take on expenditures that will stress your savings. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* A last-minute change will play in your favor. Don't hesitate to jump at a chance to do something new and exciting or network or socialize with someone you find informative and well-connected. A partnership looks promising. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Don't make a fuss or get in the way. Concentrate on something you want to accomplish, and designate your time to self-improvement, learning, and fixing or completing whatever you've left undone or broken. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Dig in to doing something that brings you joy. Spend more time at home clearing space for something you want to pursue or incorporate into your daily routine. Put on your thinking cap, and invite someone over who has something worth contributing. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Dangle what you have in front of someone trying to beat you at your own game. Whether it's romance, a personal vendetta or a business deal, take charge and turn the tables on anyone who tries to manipulate you. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* You've got your finger on the pulse, and there is no need to slow down. Embrace change, and own what takes place. Being bold and in charge will force others to value what you have to offer and respect your shrewdness. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Take a leadership position to control the outcome. Distance yourself from those who keep changing their minds. Clarity, structure and discipline will carry you to the finish line. Don't let go of your dreams, hopes and wishes. ✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Expansion will tempt you. Consider what's involved and act accordingly. You can choose unorthodox methods if you intend to oversee every step of the way. Taking control and following through is the forerunner to success. Look, see and do. ✪✪✪

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

					1	3		
				4			9	
				5			8	4
	6	3			5	4		
9			1	8	3		5	
8							2	
	4						6	
		1	8	2	9	7		
			6		4			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 2/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

9	7	3	8	4	2	5	1	6
8	1	5	9	7	6	3	4	2
2	4	6	5	1	3	9	8	7
5	3	9	4	2	1	6	7	8
7	2	4	6	5	8	1	3	9
6	8	1	3	9	7	4	2	5
1	5	8	7	6	4	2	9	3
4	9	7	2	3	5	8	6	1
3	6	2	1	8	9	7	5	4

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SOCIAL WORKERS ARE SO ESSENTIAL Solution: 8 letters

P	Y	T	I	N	G	I	D	I	A	G	N	O	S	E
O	S	C	H	O	M	E	D	T	E	P	O	G	(L)	V
L	K	L	U	I	C	E	H	Y	L	P	D	(A)	E	O
I	I	I	A	I	A	E	T	A	P	L	(W)	P	L	R
C	L	N	S	S	R	E	N	O	U	E	O	A	E	P
Y	L	I	M	A	F	S	L	O	O	H	C	S	T	M
N	O	C	P	A	W	Y	V	N	C	L	P	T	A	I
N	K	Y	S	E	E	A	T	C	E	A	S	T	R	C
R	R	L	S	W	L	Z	R	I	R	T	H	D	O	L
E	O	I	A	U	O	I	I	E	N	I	S	N	B	E
S	W	T	E	G	G	R	N	N	N	U	N	I	A	S
P	M	R	N	H	E	T	T	K	A	E	M	K	L	N
E	A	U	T	E	D	L	I	H	C	G	S	M	L	U
C	E	S	E	E	M	P	A	T	H	Y	R	S	O	O
T	T	T	E	T	A	C	I	N	U	M	M	O	C	C

© 2022 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 2/2

Awareness, Child, Clinic, Collaborate, Communicate, Community, Connect, Counsel, Couple, Decision, Diagnose, Dignity, Empathy, Family, Goal, Help, Home, Hope, Ideas, Improve, Kind, Law, Legal, Listen, Mentor, Organize, Parent, Past, Plans, Policy, Respect, Rights, Safety, School, Skill, Teamwork, Therapy, Think, Tools, Trust, Value, Wise, Worth

Yesterday's Answer: Rock N Roll

Treasuries 27, 29, 31 and 33 through 47 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

Maxey leads 76ers past Grizzlies in OT minus Embiid

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Tyrese Maxey scored 33 points, including a driving layup with 26.4 seconds left in overtime that put Philadelphia ahead for good, and the 76ers beat the Memphis Grizzlies 122-119 without Joel Embiid on Monday night.

Tobias Harris added 31 points and Andre Drummond had 16 points and 23 rebounds for Philadelphia, which won its fifth game in a row and 15th in the last 18. The 76ers improved to 4-8 without Embiid, who sat out for rest.

"Just great efforts from everybody," Harris said. "We wanted this one."

Ja Morant scored 37 points and Desmond Bane had a career-high 34 for Memphis.

"I love big games," Bane said. "They played well. We played well and fought. As long as we're fighting and playing together, I'll live with the result every night."

Neither team led by more than four in a back-and-forth and exciting fourth quarter and overtime.

Maxey's driving layup put Philadelphia in front 120-119. The 76ers packed the lane as Morant tried to reclaim the lead with a drive on the ensuing possession, and the Memphis star kicked it out to Ziaire Williams, whose corner 3-pointer rimmed out. Matisse Thybulle grabbed the rebound and passed ahead to Maxey, who finished the scoring with a layup.

"I'm happy he's my point guard," Drummond said.

Embiid celebrated with the 76ers in the locker room afterward.

"He's a great teammate," Maxey said. "He's our MVP."

Morant reached 30 points for the seventh straight game. Before Embiid's absence was announced earlier in the day, the game looked to be a matchup of two of the NBA's top stars.

Warriors 122, Rockets 108

In Houston, Stephen Curry scored 21 of his 40 points in the fourth quarter to lead Golden State over Houston.

It was the sixth consecutive win for the Warriors, while Houston extended its skid at home to 11 straight games.

Curry made seven 3-pointers, four in the fourth quarter, and had nine assists and five rebounds. His 21 fourth-quarter points were the most of his career.

Andrew Wiggins added 23 points for the Warriors and Klay Thompson had 14.

The Rockets, who lost their fourth straight game overall, were led by Christian Wood's 24 points and 13 rebounds.

Celtics 122, Heat 92

In Miami, Jaylen Brown scored 29 points, Jayson Tatum had 20 points and 12 rebounds, and Boston rolled past Miami.

Marcus Smart added 16 points and seven assists as the Celtics won for the fourth time in five games.

It was Brown's fourth consecutive game with at least 25 points, and Tatum has scored 20 or more in his last six.

Miami has lost two straight and struggled mightily without several key players in the opener of a six-game road trip: Jimmy Butler (toe), P.J. Tucker (knee) and point guard Kyle Lowry, who missed his eighth game in a row for personal reasons.

In their absence, Max Strus finished with 27 points. The Heat were coming off a triple-overtime loss to Toronto on Saturday.

Cavaliers 93, Pelicans 90

In Cleveland, reserve guard Brandon Goodwin matched his career high with 21 points, Jarrett Allen added 16 and Cleveland shook off an ugly road loss by rallying to beat New Orleans.

The Cavaliers, who played poorly in a 10-point defeat at Detroit the day before, were without starting point guard Darius Garland due to a sore lower back. Kevin Love added 15 points and 11 rebounds, and Cedi Osman had a career-best 12 assists for Cleveland, which trailed by nine in the fourth quarter.

Devonte' Graham scored 20 points and Jaxson Hayes had 19 for the Pelicans, who lost their fourth straight. New Orleans was also down a major piece as forward Brandon Ingram, who leads the Pelicans in points and assists, missed his fifth game in a row with an ankle injury.

Jonas Valanciunas could have tied it in the final second, but he missed on a drive that was tightly contested by several Cavs players.

Pacers 122, Clippers 116

In Indianapolis, rookie forward Isaiah Jackson had 26 points and 10 rebounds for his first career double-double, leading Indiana past Los Angeles.

Both totals were season highs for Jackson, a first-round draft pick out of Kentucky. Duane Washington Jr. added 16 points and made all four of his 3-pointers in the fourth quarter.

The short-handed Pacers won for the second time in six games and Rick Carlisle became the second coach in the franchise's NBA history to win 200 games. Frank Vogel won 250 during a five-season tenure with the team.

The Clippers were led by Amir Coffey with 27 points and Reggie Jackson with 21. Los Angeles went 4-4 on its road trip but had a five-game winning streak against Indiana snapped.

Injured All-Stars Paul George and Kawhi Leonard were out again for the Clippers, and the Pacers played without two-time All-Star Domantas Sabonis, who entered the COVID-19 health and safety protocols.

AP

Philadelphia 76ers' Tyrese Maxey reacts to scoring the final dunk in overtime of an NBA basketball game against the Memphis Grizzles, Monday, Jan. 31, 2022, in Philadelphia. The 76ers won 122-119 in overtime.

Raptors 106, Hawks 100

In Atlanta, Gary Trent Jr. scored 31 points, Pascal Siakam added 23 and Toronto ended Atlanta's seven-game winning streak.

Trent, who has scored at least 30 points in four straight games, hit three 3-pointers in the closing minutes of the third quarter, including a buzzer-beater, and connected again early in the fourth to put the Raptors up 85-77.

Fred VanVleet, who had 16 points, made consecutive 3s to push the lead to nine.

The Hawks played without All-Star guard Trae Young, who was scratched with a bruised right shoulder. Kevin Huerter scored 26 points to lead Atlanta.

Thunder 98, Trail Blazers 81

In Oklahoma City, Lu Dort scored 18 points and Oklahoma City defeated Portland to snap a seven-game losing streak.

Josh Giddey added 14 points and 12 rebounds for the short-handed Thunder. Oklahoma City's scoring leader, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, is out until after the All-Star break with a sprained right ankle sustained last Friday against Indiana.

CJ McCollum scored 21 points and Norman Powell added 18 for the Trail Blazers, who have lost four of five.

Knicks 116, Kings 96

In New York, Alec Burks had 21 points off the bench, Evan Fournier also scored 21 and New York routed skidding Sacramento to stop a three-game slide.

Julius Randle added 17 points and nine rebounds for the Knicks, who won for the second time in eight games.

Tyrese Haliburton had 21 points and eight assists for the Kings, who have lost seven straight overall and 12 in a row on the road.

Sacramento's last road victory was Dec. 1 at the Los Angeles Clippers.

NBA BRIEFS

Beal to miss next 2 games for Wizards with sprained wrist

WASHINGTON (AP)—Bradley Beal is expected to miss the next two games for the Washington Wizards after spraining his left wrist.

The Wizards updated Beal's status Monday. He was injured in the third quarter at Memphis on Saturday.

Washington plays at Milwaukee on Tuesday and at Philadelphia on Wednesday. The team said Beal's status beyond those two games will be updated after further evaluation.

Beal is averaging 23.2 points per game this season. He missed time earlier in the month after entering health and safety protocols.

The Wizards have lost five straight and have fallen all the way out of playoff position after winning 10 of their first 13 games this season.

Utah's Ingles out after MRI shows torn ACL in right knee

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Utah Jazz forward Joe Ingles tore a ligament in his right knee that will require surgery.

Ingles is out indefinitely after an MRI on Monday revealed a torn anterior cruciate ligament. He will have surgery in the coming weeks.

Ingles was injured in the second quarter of the Jazz's game Sunday night at Minnesota. His left leg buckled as he drove to the basket with 5:52 remaining, and the Target Center crowd fell silent while he was treated on the floor.

The seven-year veteran had to be helped off the court. The Jazz were already shorthanded with the absences of Donovan Mitchell (concussion) and Rudy Gobert (left calf strain).

Ingles, Utah's all-time 3-point leader, was averaging 7.2 points, 3.5 assists and 2.9 rebounds in 45 appearances this season.

The Jazz are 30-21 and in fourth in the Western Conference standings this season but they have lost their last five straight games.

Blazers' Little to have surgery, will miss rest of season

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Portland Trail Blazers forward Nassir Little will miss the rest of the season because of a left shoulder injury that requires surgery.

Little was injured in the fourth quarter of Portland's game against the Minnesota Timberwolves on Jan. 25. The team announced he will undergo surgery to repair a torn labrum in Florida on Tuesday.

Little appeared in 42 games this season for the Blazers with 23 starts. He averaged 9.8 points and 5.6 rebounds over the season.

He took advantage of increased playing time in January, averaging 13.1 points with 5.7 rebounds for the month.

Little, 21, is in his third NBA season after being selected by the Blazers with the 25th overall pick in the 2019 draft out of North Carolina.

The Blazers (21-29, 10th place Western Conference) have been beset by injuries and absences this season. Star guard Damian Lillard was sidelined because of a lingering abdominal injury at the start of the new year and eventually underwent surgery. There is no timetable for his return.

Starter CJ McCollum recently returned after missing 17 games with a collapsed right lung. Center Cody Zeller had surgery on his right knee last week and will be reevaluated in two months.

Other players have missed time because of more minor injuries and the league's COVID-19 protocols. In all, the Blazers have used 14 different lineups this season.

Barty wins drought-breaking Australian Open women's title

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Ash Barty really didn't know how to react to this drought-breaking triumph.

The usually so reserved and understated champion just let it all out, yelling "yes ... yes."

A quick walk to the net to congratulate the Australian Open runner-up, 28-year-old American Danielle Collins. Yes, that restored some sense of order. Acknowledge the umpire with a handshake. Yes, that's another important task for the women's top-ranked tennis player.

Then back onto Rod Laver Arena to scream out again: "yes ... yes."

Yes, it had been 44 years since an Australian won a singles title at the Australian Open, quite an anomaly for a country with such a long list of Grand Slam champions. So no need to keep a lid on the celebrations. An almost full house at Rod Laver Arena, despite ticket restrictions imposed for the COVID-19 pandemic, was rocking.

Barty knew what to do when she saw who was presenting the trophy. Her mentor, the Indigenous and Australian tennis icon Evonne Goolagong Cawley, had flown in secretly from Queensland state to hand it over to the next generation star with Indigenous heritage.

Instinct kicked in for Barty. It was a big, loving hug.

Barty will no longer be weighed down by the 1970s.

She recovered from 5-1 down in the second set to beat Collins 6-3, 7-6 (2) in the final on Saturday night, becoming the first Australian to win the Australian Open women's singles championship since Chris O'Neil in 1978.

The pressure is off the 25-year-old Aussie, who has made a remarkable career comeback after taking time off — missing every Grand Slam tournament in 2015 and '16 — and briefly flirting with a professional cricket career.

"It was a little bit surreal," Barty said. "I didn't quite know what to do or what to feel — just being able to let out a little bit of emotion, which is a little bit unusual for me, and being able to celebrate with everyone who was there in the crowd, the energy was incredible."

Barty now has Grand Slam singles titles on three surfaces, adding the hard courts of Melbourne Park to her titles on grass at Wimbledon last year and on clay at the 2019 French Open. Serena Williams is the only other active player on the women's tour with majors on all three surfaces.

"This is just a dream come true for me," Barty said. "I'm just so proud to be an Aussie."

Goolagong Cawley was a trailblazer. She won four of her seven Grand Slam singles titles at the Australian Open from 1974-77, after winning the French Open at the age of 19. She won Wimbledon in 1971 and, after having a baby, in 1980. She reached 11 other major finals, including four in a row at the U.S. Open.

And she spotted Barty's talent at a young age.

"Very lucky to be able to give her a hug in some of the biggest moments in my life," Barty said. "To be able to experience that together on such a big occasion, on such a beautiful court, and in a tournament that means so much to both of us — it was really nice to have her there just as someone to lean on when I wasn't really sure what to do."

AP

Ash Barty of Australia waves as she holds the Daphne Akhurst Memorial Cup after defeating Danielle Collins of the U.S., in the women's singles final at the Australian Open tennis championships in Saturday, Jan. 29, 2022, in Melbourne, Australia.

O'Neil was involved in the night, too, ushering the trophy into the stadium.

Barty had only conceded one service game through six matches leading into the final.

And Collins was the fourth American in as many rounds to take her on, with Barty beating Amanda Anisimova, Jessica Pegula and 2017 U.S. Open runner-up Madison Keys in straight sets.

Collins, meanwhile, had to rally from a set and break down to beat Danish teenager Clara Tauson in the third round. She was hampered by a sore back, which prevented her from sitting down in changeovers.

Barty took the first set after saving a break point in the fifth game and then breaking in the next.

Collins hit back, relying on her high-power, high-intensity game to break Barty's serve in the second and sixth games.

She twice served for the second set, and got within two points of taking her first Grand Slam final to a third.

But she lost momentum when Barty jumped into a second serve and sent a return winner down the line in the seventh game.

Collins went to talk to the chair umpire when she faced a break point, and got booed by the crowd. When she lost the game, Collins got another chorus of boos.

Revived by that kind of energy, Barty won five of the last six games and dominated the tiebreaker.

"This crowd is one of the most fun I've ever played in front of," Barty said. "You relaxed me, forced me to play my best tennis."

Until Saturday, Barty's best run in Australia had ended in a semifinal loss to eventual champion Sofia Kenin in 2020.

Australian flags and the red, black and yellow Aboriginal flag were waved around in the crowd. Cathy Freeman, who carried both flags to celebrate her gold medal in the 400 meters at the Sydney 2000 Olympics — one of the defining images of those Games — was there for support, too.

Collins, whose previous best run at a major was a semifinal loss here in 2019, paid tribute to her longtime mentor Marty Schneider and her boyfriend Joe Vollen.

"Thank you for believing in me," she said, crying. "I haven't had a ton of people believing me in my career."

Collins, who doesn't have a permanent coach, said: "I was pushed to the max, and I gave myself a chance."

"So it was a great event for me. Accomplished some new things. Learned a lot of new things."

The home country's drought in Australian Open men's singles dates back to Mark Edmondson's victory in 1976, but the men's doubles title is back with a homegrown team for the first time since 1997.

Wild-card entrants Nick Kyrgios and Thanasi Kokkinakis — the so-called Special Ks — finished off a fairly wild men's doubles campaign by beating Matt Ebden and Max Purcell 7-5, 6-4.

Barty and Djokovic keep No.1 ranking; Collins into top 10

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Newly crowned Australian Open women's singles champion Ash Barty has maintained her more than two-year grip on the number one ranking after winning her third major title with a straight sets victory over Danielle Collins on Saturday.

AP

Daniil Medvedev of Russia waves after defeating Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece in their semifinal match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia, Friday, Jan. 28, 2022.

Barty, winner of the French Open in 2019 and Wimbledon the following year, has extended her ranking points lead over incumbent No.2 Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus, with French Open champion Barbora Krejcikova rising one spot into third after making the quarterfinals in Australia for the first time.

Poland's Iga Swiatek moves up five places into fourth after making her first major semifinal outside of a clay court, while 28-year-old Collins jumps up 20 places to be in the top 10 for the first time after an impressive run to her maiden Grand Slam final.

"It's been an amazing fortnight for you," said Barty of the American in her post match speech after Saturday's final. "You're in the top 10 and it's absolutely where you belong. I know you will be fighting for many more of these in the future."

Former No. 1, Spain's Garbine Muguruza drops four places into seventh after losing in the second round at Melbourne Park.

In the men's rankings, Italy's Matteo Berrettini is the only mover inside the top 10, climbing to a new career high of No.6 after making the semifinals at Melbourne Park for the first time, with Russia's Andrey Rublev dropping to seventh.

Novak Djokovic, with 20 grand slam titles, will continue as No. 1 despite missing the Australian Open after being deported for not meeting the country's strict COVID-19 vaccination rules.

Russia's Daniil Medvedev maintains second irrespective of his result against Rafael Nadal in the Australian Open men's final to be played later Sunday.

Nadal, tied with Djokovic and Roger Federer with 20 grand slam titles, stays fifth, behind Germany's Alexander Zverev and Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas.

UOG basketball teams lose tourney but gain experience

The University of Guam Men's Basketball Team and Women's Basketball Team found it challenging to secure a win at the "Hagåtña City Slam" tournament hosted by Clutch Guam and Crowns Guam. Although there were a few close games, both teams could not overcome their losing streaks.

The tournament—held on Saturday and Sunday at the Paseo basketball courts—followed a 3x3 format. All games were 10 minutes long, with a running clock, inside the 3-point line. Each basket counted as one point, and shots outside the 3-point line were two points.

Not having much experience with the game format, both teams had shaky starts and dropped their opening games.

The Triton Men seemed a bit overwhelmed at the start of their first match against Team MVP. They settled down in the last five minutes but lost to Team MVP 17-7. Team MVP handed the Triton Men their worst loss of the tournament and went on to win the men's division championship.

For their first match, the Lady Tritons took on Team Post'N. They managed to pull within 7-5 after a slow start but could not score again and lost to Team Post'N 10-5. The Lady Tritons picked up momentum in their second match against defending women's division champions, Team Slay. UOG played great defense and gave Team Slay all they could handle but could not hit a final shot and lost 5-4.

The Triton Men finished day one with a physical, back-and-forth match against Team Bucketsville. UOG managed to pull within one point, but the clock ran out, and UOG lost by one point 16-15.

UOG opened play on Sunday with the Triton Men going up against the Triple 7s. Although they played well for the first five minutes, the Triton Men found it hard to score in the final minutes and lost 10-5. Their second match against the Hybrids was close to start, but the Hybrids pulled away in the second part to win 10-5. This game eliminated the Tritons from bracket play and sent them home with a 0-4 record.

The Lady Tritons kicked off day two with a match against Team PPP. Having a solid offense and strong passing game, Team PPP made a lot of inside layups and beat UOG 14-7. Team PPP remained strong throughout the tournament and claimed the women's division championship.

With only four teams in the women's division, the Lady Tritons were automatically in the semifinals and faced the defending champions, Team Slay, in the first round. Unfortunately for UOG, Team Slay had a better offense and secured the win with a final score of 8-3. The Lady Tritons were eliminated after their loss and ended the tournament with a 0-4 record.

"While we didn't win any games, all of our student-athletes said they enjoyed the experience," said UOG Triton Athletics Director Doug Palmer. "This tournament was also a great learning opportunity — competing against more seasoned teams will ultimately help our athletes become better basketball players in the long run."

All UOG games were recorded and can be watched on the Triton Athletics YouTube channel.

Next weekend, the Men and Lady Tritons will compete in the "Love and Basketball" tournament sponsored by the MicroFriends basketball organization. The two-day tournament will be held on Feb. 6 and Feb. 13 at the Vicente S.A. Benavente Middle School Gym. ***(PR)***

TRITON ATHLETICS

Jacether Andrew drives toward the basket for the Lady Tritons in a match against Team PPP at the "Hagåtña City Slam" tournament on Jan. 30 at the Paseo basketball court.

TRITON ATHLETICS

Tritons' Brandon Duenas prepares a pass in a match against the Hybrids at the "Hagåtña City Slam" tournament on Jan. 30 at the Paseo basketball court.

2nd Marpi Drag Race 5K this Saturday

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Run Saipan will hold its 2nd Marpi Drag Race 5K this Saturday, Feb. 5, across the road from the former Mariana Resort & Spa entrance.

Check-in time for the race is 6am with the 5-kilometer competition starting 30 minutes later at 6:30am. Run Saipan members get to avail of free entrance because of their annual membership, while non-members have to fork out $5.

Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr. said the 2nd Marpi Drag Race 5K was named after the illegal drag racing activities that used to occur in the area.

"I coined it last year because it was the location of the infamous illegal drag strip from back in the 1990 Tinaki period. Everyone knows it was the illegal racing area back in the day. What better name than to coin it the Marpi Drag Race 5K."

Dela Cruz said runners would greatly appreciate and enjoy the course they set Saturday.

"It's a straight away out and back course. There's a little incline and some curves but really easy for runners. They will definitely not get lost with this. Kind of like the drag racers of old, they just have to one-shot it out (but turn back in this case)," he said.

The inaugural Marpi Drag Race 5K last year was topped by Shuji Kuroda after the Food & Beverage assistant manager at Grandvrio Saipan shredded the course in 19:18. He was followed by Kuu Nishimura with a time of 21:44, while Sam Culp completed the Top 3 in 22.20. There were no places for women and under-18 runners back then and a total of 37 took part in the race.

To register for Run Saipan's 2nd Marpi Drag Race 5K, copy and paste this link https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScoUj07y3QsaEnCJGDj9KQy4X8tdbz_xPzaRszOxLVebFyNFw/viewform?fbclid=IwAR09-_WF_J5sJzJMF-Ww-dtNkP51wx1GgiZ8IKpHw121M5LV8VBWUyeV_so to your browsers.

For more information about Run Saipan's 2nd Marpi Drag Race 5K, call (670) 287-0891 or email runsaipan@gmail.com.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Shuji Kuroda topped the inaugural Marpi Drag Race 5K with a time of 19:18. The 2nd Marpi Drag Race 5K will be held this Saturday starting with a 6am check-in time.

STRONG

From Page 20

cape with an 11-8, 8-11, 11-10 victory. The Magnipon-Anas match was the highlight game in the FMS-Hopwood 1 duel, as the former once trailed at 5-10 before working his way back to force a deadlock at 10-all. However, Manipon fell short in the end, as his serve went wide in the ensuing play, giving Anas the close victory.

Despite playing three matches in their first assignment, Magnipon still had the energy to see action in another men's doubles event with Quidato and they also swept their foes, cruising to a 11-0, 11-6 victory over SIS' Branden DeRocher and Michael Zhou. Magnipon then played his fifth game when he joined forces with Ahn anew in the mixed doubles and they topped Julie Chavez and DeRocher, 11-3, 11-9.

SIS foiled Hopwood 1's bid for a sweep of the three doubles events when Chavez returned to the court with Lina Tsukagoshi in the girls doubles and they slipped past Ahn and Hicaro, 11-6, 11-6. The Geckos went on to win two of their five matches against Hopwood 1 when Peter White nosed out Quidato, 11-6, 7-11, 11-7, in the boys singles. In the girls singles, Ahn made it two in a row in the opener after edging Hoo Wang, 11-9, 11-4.

Meanwhile, SIS, FMS, and Hopwood 2 also had two games in last Saturday's opener and results of their other matches will be reported in *Saipan Tribune*'s Thursday edition. The four teams are in Bracket A of the middle school division, which will have its Bracket B matches on Feb. 19.

The high school competition of the Northern Marianas Badminton Association and CNMI Public School System Athletic Program-organized event is also scheduled to start on Feb. 19.

BILLIE

From Page 20

division. He was followed by a pair of Untalans—Roseha and Jarrell—who got 44 and 40 points, respectively.

Conan Iakopo was true to his name conquering the Peewee II Class after edging Kaleb Reyes, 47-45. The latter won the first heat, but Iakopo stormed right back from the runner-up finish to take pole position in the second heat. Keenon Togawa came in third with 42 points, with Elleayah Cruz finishing fourth with 18 points.

Results of the Peewee ATV, Mini ATV, Mini I, Mini II, Big Boy ATV, Novice, Intermediate, and Veterans classes will be reported in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

HALF

From Page 20

details so we can open online registration shortly Saipan Marathon is an annual signature of the MVA and was last held in March 2020 just before The Marianas began implementing quarantine for people entering the Commonwealth".

Awards will be presented to the Top 3 overall male and female finishers for the Half Marathon, 10K and 5K. In addition, only the first place male and female finishers in their respective age division category will receive an award. There will be no age division category awards for the 5K.

"Northern Marianas Athletics is playing a bigger role than ever in support of the marathon this year, and we couldn't do it without them," said Iakopo. "We cannot thank them enough for partnering with us to bring this event back to our Marianas community this year."

Race packet pick-up will be available on April 8, 2022, from 4pm to 6pm at a venue to be announced. All participants will receive a finisher's T-shirt, a certificate of completion via email, and entry to the awards banquet.

The race follows some of Saipan's most scenic roadways, starting and ending at Micro Beach and American Memorial Park and providing stunning views of the azure blue lagoon along the Beach Road. The race will be a World Athletics™—AIMS Certified Course, as World Athletics™ has agreed to extend the measurement certificates for another 12 months for the Saipan Half Marathon and 10K. This extension will also apply for the courses if used during the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games in June.

For more information, visit The Marianas Calendar at www.mymarianas.com or contact MVA Community Projects coordinator Ed Diaz at 1.670.664.3210 or ediaz@mymarianas.com. ***(PR)***

MVA

The 13th Annual Saipan Marathon was held on March 9, 2019. The 15th Saipan Marathon organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority will be held on April 9, 2022, in The Marianas, featuring a Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K. Visit www.mymarianas.com for more information.

Maxey leads 76ers past Grizzlies in OT minus Embiid

PAGE 17

Saipan Tribune
Sports

UOG basketball teams lose tourney but gain experience

PAGE 19

Strong start for Hopwood 1 in badminton

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hopwood Middle School 2 won its first two games in the TakeCare Interscholastic Badminton League last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex for a rousing start in the inaugural competition.

The Chang Whang Jang-coached Hopwood 1 kicked off the season with a 13-2 victory over Francisco M. Sablan Middle School, as the Hilitais prevailed in the boys and girls singles, girls doubles, and mixed doubles. Hopwood 1 then made it two in a row following a 10-5 triumph over Saipan International School, as the former also took the girls singles and mixed and boys doubles.

Against FMS, Hopwood 1's Teresa Lin Ahn swept Shaina Malonzo, 11-6, 11-2, to give her team 3 points. A squad is awarded 3 points if it wins in two games and 2 if it prevails in a three-game match. Ahn helped Hopwood 1 get two more victories, as she paired with Shemariah Hicaro in dominating Sisther Fred in the girls doubles, 11-3, 11-4, and Tyrone James Magnipon in downing Abdul Munim and Crisha Mariano in the mixed doubles, 11-3, 11-4.

In the boys doubles, Magnipon partnered with John Peter Quidato in outclassing Munim and Wasee Anas, 11-9, 11-6. Anas handed FMS its lone win in the pairing when he withstood Magnipon's rally in the deciding third game and es-

See STRONG on Page 19

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Francisco M. Sablan Middle School's Wasee Anas, left, and Hopwood Middle School 1's Tyrone Manipon play in the boys singles event in the TakeCare Interscholastic Badminton League last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Billie reigns supreme in Power Puff Class

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Defending champion Billie Pangelinan was dialed in and didn't lose her number en route to winning the Power Puff Class of the 2022 Monster Energy Point Series Race last Sunday at the Cowtown Race Track.

The seventh grader at Dandan Middle School proved once again that age is just a number by sweeping both heats en route to earning 50 points in the first race of the 2022 season.

"I had a fun time on the track as always. I wasn't really focused on winning. I was more focused on getting used to my bike and having fun," said Pangelinan, who swapped her old Yamaha 85cc for a spanking new Honda CRF150.

The 12-year-old even wasn't daunted with the new layout for the Cowtown Race Track.

"I think I like the new jumps to the track cause it makes it more challenging and fun. It's like a never-ending sport with different track layouts. There's more to learn," she said.

Pangelinan extended her thanks to her sponsors Team Ericco, Joeten Motors, and Pokka as well as the continued support of her friends and family.

Coming in second to Pangelinan in the Power Puff division was Nanako Celis, who wound up with 44 points after finishing runner-up in both heats. Shaniah Alvarez round out the Top 3 with 40 points, following third-place finishes in both heats. Emelsha Cepeda came in fourth with 34 points with Sheanna Pangelinan was fifth also with 34 points.

In the Peewee I Class, Bentley Koshira won both heats for 50 points to top the

See BILLIE on Page 19

LAO ZHANG

Billie Pangelinan competes in the Power Puff Class of the 2022 Monster Energy Point Series Race last Sunday at the Cowtown Race Track.

Half, 10K, and 5K only for Saipan Marathon on April

After a one year hiatus due to COVID-19, the Saipan Marathon will return to The Marianas on April 9, 2022 , but will feature only a half marathon, 10K, and 5K.

The Marianas Visitors Authority is working to open online registration for the event via Race Roster within the next two weeks.

"We are excited to announce the return of Saipan Marathon this year, thanks to the gradual reopening of tourism in The Marianas," said MVA managing director Priscilla Maratita Iakopo. "Although resources are limited and we will offer only a half marathon, 10K, and 5K this year, we know both visiting and local athletes have been looking forward to the event, and we are preparing for a small but solid number of participants. We are working on finalizing all the

See HALF on Page 19